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Japan

Action Sought on U.S. Salmon Fishing Ban
OW191253 Tokyo KYODO in English 1228 GMT
19 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Japan asked the United States Friday to take legal action against a ruling of the U.S. Federal Court of Appeals upholding a district court decision to ban Japanese salmon fishing in the 200-mile U.S. Zone.

The request was made by Yasuo Goto, vice minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, to Charge d'Affaires L. Desaix Anderson, Jr. of the U.S. Embassy here, ministry sources said.

Goto asked the U.S. Government to take legal and other steps to ensure the continued operation of Japanese salmon fishing boats, recognized under a bilateral fishery pact.

The U.S. court Tuesday upheld the district court decision aimed at preventing the accidental catching of dolphins by Japanese salmon fishing boats. The decision was handed down in May last year in response to a complaint from environmentalist groups.

Goto specifically asked the U.S. Government to seek a retrial or an appeal to a higher court.

He also called for a revision of a marine mammal protection law, which had been cited as a basis for the district court decision. The law obligates fishermen to obtain the U.S. Government's permission in case of the danger of accidentally catching such animals as dolphins and seals.

Anderson assured Goto that the U.S. Government also takes a serious view of the ruling by the court of appeals and will do its utmost to overturn it through legal procedures, the sources said.

Goto also asked the U.S. Government to retract U.S. sanctions against Japan's ongoing research whaling in the Antarctic Ocean.

U.S. Commerce Secretary William Verity announced on February 10 that a 50 percent cut will be imposed on Japan's fish quota in U.S. waters in retaliation for its research whaling, which he said is harming international whaling agreements.

Goto said the U.S. action will adversely affect fishery relations as a whole between the two countries.

In another related development Friday, Kenichi Unno, director of the Oceanic Fisheries Department of the Fisheries Agency, told reporters that Councillor Kazuo

Shima will be sent to Washington early next week to ask for urgent steps for ensuring Japanese fishing operations in the face of the ruling by the court of appeals.

USSR Says DPRK Unjustly Blamed in KAL Loss
OW191023 Tokyo KYODO in English 0954 GMT
19 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Soviet diplomatic sources in Tokyo called "unfair" Japan's statement in the United Nations Security Council accusing North Korea of responsibility in the Korean Air (KAL) bombing disaster.

As there has been no proof that North Korea was behind the criminal act we think it unfair that the Japanese Government blames North Korea, the sources said.

They claimed that the confession made by Kim Hyon hui to having carried out the bombing and being a North Korean agent is not sufficient proof to blame North Korea.

There must be another persons statement to support her confession, they said, adding that they are against any act of terrorism, irrespective of the country involved.

They also accused the Japanese Government of being too hasty in its conclusions.

Japan has said the conclusion was reached that North Korea was behind the bombing following its own investigation.

the KAL jetliner in question disappeared with 115 people aboard over the Andaman Sea off the Burmese-Thai region last November 19.

Itinerary Planned for Takeshita PRC Trip
OW190316 Tokyo KYODO in English 0240 GMT
19 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita will visit China for several days sometime between August 25-31, Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno said Friday.

Uno, meeting reporters at the Diet after the day's cabinet session, said his ministry is negotiating with Chinese officials to decide the final itinerary for Takeshita's first visit to China after assuming the premiership last November.

Takeshita will meet with China's senior leader Deng Xiaoping and Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang, Foreign Ministry sources said.

Takeshita To Meet With ROK Leaders
OW191205 Tokyo KYODO in English 1156 GMT
19 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita will meet with South Korean President-elect No Tae-u next Thursday in Seoul after attending No's residential inauguration, government sources said Friday.

Takeshita, who will visit Seoul Wednesday and Thursday, is also scheduled to meet with outgoing President Chon Tu-hwan, now Prime Minister Yi Hyon-chae and U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker, who will reportedly attend the ceremony.

The first summit meeting between Takeshita, who took office last November, and incoming President No is expected to pave the way for establishment of a reliable relationship between the two top leaders and ensure the success of the September Seoul Olympics, diplomatic sources said.

No, who will succeed President Chon Tu-hwan, won a presidential election last December 16.

UAE Oil Minister Arrives for 1-Week Visit
JN131202 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0600 GMT
13 Feb 88

[Excerpt] Tokyo, 13 Feb (WAKH)—Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and mineral resources, arrived in Tokyo this morning on an official visit to Japan during which he will meet with a number of senior Japanese officials. During his 1-week visit to Japan, Dr al-'Utaybah will meet with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita. [passage omitted]

Predicts OPEC Production Cut
OW150501 Tokyo KYODO in English 0417 GMT
15 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 KYODO—United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah told Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno Monday that the 13-nation international oil cartel OPEC may have to cut crude oil output to stabilize crude market prices.

Foreign Ministry officials quoted Al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, as saying that members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries are concerned about the current instability in crude oil prices.

OPEC has set its oil output ceiling at 16.6 million barrels a day and the benchmark selling price of 18 dollars a barrel. However, spot oil market prices have fallen to around 17 dollars a barrel.

Al-'Utaybah, who has been in Japan since Saturday on a week-long visit, also told Uno that the United Arab Emirates and five other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council will continue to urge Iran to accept a United Nations resolution last July which called for an immediate ceasefire, the officials said.

The council, comprising the UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, will continue its efforts to bring about peace to the Gulf region through talks, Al-'Utaybah was quoted as saying.

The Japanese foreign minister told Al-'Utaybah that Tokyo has also asked both Iran and Iraq to accept the U.N. resolution, they said.

Al-'Utaybah, who will attend a meeting of directors of the Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction Co. Tuesday, is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita Tuesday and former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Thursday.

He will leave Japan Friday.

Meets With Uno in Tokyo
JN151527 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1325 GMT
15 Feb 88

Tokyo, 15 Feb (WAM)—Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources, met with Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno in Tokyo today. During the meeting, they discussed cooperation between the UAE and Japan in the oil field as well as the situation in the world oil market.

A responsible source has stated to WAM that discussions between the two sides focused on increasing and coordinating UAE-Japanese cooperation to stop the Iraq-Iran war. Uno voiced appreciation for the distinguished relations between the UAE and Japan. He pointed out that the UAE occupies the first place among the countries exporting oil to Japan. He also expressed appreciation for the UAE's role, whether on an individual basis or through OPEC, to maintain stability on the world oil market and in the world economy. Uno said he looks forward to visiting the UAE and the Gulf states, particularly in light of current circumstances resulting from of developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

The two sides stressed the need for a quick end to the Iraq-Iran war, the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No. 598, the end to the threat to shipping in the Gulf, and the maintaining of oil supplies and international trade via the Strait of Hormuz in order to secure the stability of the world economy. [passage omitted]

Meets Miyazawa, Others
*JN151920 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1440 GMT
15 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, 15 Feb (WAKH)—Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, met in Tokyo today with Kiichi Miyazawa, Japanese deputy prime minister and finance minister. During the meeting, they discussed cooperation between the UAE and Japan and recent developments in the world economy and the oil market.

The two sides stressed the importance of relations between the UAE and Japan and voiced their satisfaction at the level these relations have attained and the ways to promote them. In this regard, the two sides pointed out that the UAE occupies the first place among the countries that export crude oil to Japan and supplies liquefied gas to Japan in order to operate the Tokyo power station.

Dr al-'Utaybah said: We in the UAE look forward to promoting relations with Japan. He pointed out that the UAE and Saudi Arabia will remain the two main countries that supply Japan with crude oil since they have the largest crude oil reserves in the world. For his part, Miyazawa lauded relations between his country and the UAE. He said: I take pride in this relationship and look forward to promoting it to the level that conforms with the deep friendship between our two countries.

The two sides discussed various world economic issues. Dr Al-'Utaybah briefed the Japanese official on the efforts OPEC has exerted to stabilize the world oil market. For his part, the Japanese deputy prime minister briefed Dr Al-'Utaybah on the efforts exerted by the large industrialized countries to tackle world economic problems. He also explained his country's economic and financial policies in detail. The meeting was attended by UAE Charge d'Affaires in Tokyo Isma'il 'Ubayd and members of the accompanying delegation.

Dr al-'Utaybah also received Hirayowa [name as received], head of the Tokyo Electricity Company. During the meeting, they reviewed relations between the Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction company and the Japanese company. It is noteworthy that the Tokyo Electricity Company imports the liquefied gas produced by the Abu Dhabi company in accordance with a long-term 20-year contract.

Comments on Oil Price Rumors
*OW171155 Tokyo KYODO in English 1030 GMT
17 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 17 KYODO—United Arab Emirates (UAE) Oil Minister Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah accused the U.S. and Japanese mass media Wednesday of spreading false rumors on crude oil discounting by Persian Gulf producers belonging to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Al-'Utaybah accused the mass media of disseminating "well-organized propaganda" and warned that such rumors would cause volatility and instability in the international crude oil market.

He also condemned as false recent reports that Saudi Arabia, the leader of OPEC, was offering discounts on its crude to some Arab nations.

Al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, made the accusations at a meeting of journalists and businessmen at a Tokyo hotel, held under the auspices of Abu Dhabi Oil Co., a Japanese oil importer.

There have been reports of discounting by OPEC's powerful Gulf producers—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iran and Iraq—despite last December's OPEC agreement in Geneva to keep the 13-nation cartel's official selling price at 18 dollars per barrel.

In December, OPEC decided to set its oil output ceiling at 16.6 million barrels a day and its official price at 18 dollars. However, spot oil market prices have fallen to around 15 to 17 dollars a barrel since then.

The decision was made amid reports that some OPEC Gulf producers were not abiding by a December 1986 accord to hold down OPEC's total oil output and restrict output by each OPEC member in a bid to stabilize prices.

Al-'Utaybah firmly denied Japanese press speculation that the chief purpose of his visit to Japan is to offer Japanese buyers discounts on crude oil.

Al-'Utaybah underlined that the 13-nation cartel now has a "political will to save and defend" the 18-dollar-a-barrel official price guideline, although OPEC members had shown a political will in 1986 to shrug off the benchmark price.

"We are committed to defend the 18 dollars," he said.

He criticized the increasing number of foreign oil buyers visiting the UAE to demand discount prices as seeking to benefit only themselves regardless of the interests of the Persian Gulf state.

"If our oil is too expensive for you, you can find cheaper oil elsewhere," he said.

Holds Talks With Iranian Envoy
*LD181742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 18 Feb 88*

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Mr Adeli, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Japan, today met Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum, who is currently visiting Japan. The two discussed regional problems and the world oil market.

In this meeting, the UAE minister stressed that his country has always believed that foreigners must not interfere in the region's affairs, and as a result it supports the upcoming talks between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the member states of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council and is very optimistic about the meeting.

Leaves Tokyo 19 February
*JN190802 Manama WAM in Arabic 0730 GMT
19 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, 19 Feb (WAM)—Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, left Tokyo this morning at the end of a week-long visit to Japan. During the visit, Al-'Utaybah met with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, the ministers of foreign affairs, finance, international trade and industry, and representatives of Japanese oil companies.

Al-'Utaybah's talks with these officials dealt with ways to promote bilateral relations in the field of oil industries.

He was seen off at the airport by the Japanese Foreign Ministry under secretary, the UAE charge d'affaires in Tokyo, and Japanese oil company officials.

Foreign Minister Receives Iraqi Official
*JN121638 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT
12 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, 12 Feb (INA)—During his meeting with Wisam al-Zahawi, Iraqi Foreign Ministry first under secretary, here today, Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno said that Japan, along with other Security Council members, will adopt a second resolution if Iran continues to reject [Resolution No 598]. During the meeting, the Japanese minister explained his country's efforts to implement Resolution No. 598 and achieve a peaceful solution. Also during the meeting, Wisam al-Zahawi handed the Japanese foreign minister a written message from Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The message deals with the Iranian regime's insistence on continuing its aggression against Iraq and other states in the region. It also deals with the ongoing debate in the UN Security Council on adopting a resolution banning arms exports to the Iranian regime.

The Foreign Ministry first under secretary also met with Koriyama, Japanese Foreign Ministry under secretary, and senior Foreign Ministry officials. He briefed them in detail on the Iraqi stand. Al-Zahawi met in Tokyo today with Kiba, member of the Japanese parliament and head of the parliamentarians' league for Iraqi-Japanese friendship. Kiba voiced his sympathy with Iraq and its (?stand). Wisam al-Zahawi arrived in Tokyo last night.

JCP Leader Blames DPRK for KAL Crash
*OW191041 Tokyo KYODO in English 1034 GMT
19 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Japan Communist Party leader Kenji Miyamoto on Friday called North Korea a dishonest socialist state and renewed his accusation that it was responsible for the loss of a South Korean airliner last November.

Miyamoto, 79, chairman of the JCP Central Committee, said North Korea forces its people to devote their life for the sake of their "lord," whom he did not mention by name but apparently meant President Kim Il-song.

The JCP head, speaking at the Japan National Press Club in Tokyo, defended the party's position blaming North Korea for the November 29 loss of the Korean Air (KAL) jet with 115 people on board, adding that the JCP's view was in line with the facts.

He said it is an "illusion" that a socialist country can never be guilty of any wrongdoing, adding that he thinks it is wrong for socialist countries to defend everthing done by other socialist states.

Everybody knows that the KAL flight disappeared, 115 people were killed, one of the two agents seized in Bahrain committed suicide, and the other survived, said Miyamoto who has ruled the Communist Party for the past 30 years.

South Korea, Japan and the United States have blamed North Korea for the KAL crash, citing evidence obtained mainly from self-confessed North Korean agent Kim Hyon-hui after she was extradited from Bahrain to Seoul.

JSP To Maintain Friendly Ties With DPRK
*OW191031 Tokyo KYODO in English 0923 GMT
19 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—The No. 1 opposition Japan Socialist Party will maintain friendly ties with North Korea while improving relations with South Korea, JSP Secretary General Tsuruo Yamaguchi said Friday.

Yamaguchi, meeting reporters at the Diet, said that the JSP will promote contacts with South Korea on the basis of not intervening in internal affairs.

He replied to a question about speculation that South Korea may accept JSP leader Takako Doi's visit to Seoul on condition that the JSP sever ties with Pyongyang.

Yamaguchi said the JSP can perform what others cannot do, adding the main opposition party can deliver North Korea's message to the South.

Last Saturday JSP Chairwoman Doi expressed her wish to visit South Korea sometime before the September Seoul Olympics to meet incoming president No Tae-u.

On Thursday, JSP's central executive committee broke a decades-long policy not to promote ties with South Korea and permitted its Diet member Kenjiro Kawamata to join an interparty mission to South Korea in March.

JSP To Seek Doi's Early Seoul Visit

*OW151331 Tokyo KYODO in English 1157 GMT
15 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 KYODO—The Japan Socialist Party (JSP) decided Monday to set up a task force to pave the way for a visit by JSP leader Takako Doi to South Korea in the spring, party officials said.

The task force reflects the strong desire to visit Seoul expressed by Doi at a press conference held Saturday after a three-day JSP national convention.

JSP sources said the task force will collect general information on South Korea, where ruling party leader No Tae-u will succeed Chon Tu-hwan as the nation's president on February 25.

The task force will also start making its first official contacts with the South Korean Embassy. The JSP currently has relations only with North Korea.

The sources also said the party's central committee will decide at a meeting Thursday to lift a ban on JSP Diet member visits to South Korea.

The JSP, which has branded the South Korean government a military dictatorship, does not allow its members to have contacts with South Korea.

The step to lift the ban will be taken ahead of JSP Dietman Kenji Kawamata's visit [to] Seoul March 21-22. Kawamata will be travelling as a member of a suprapartisan parliamentary league to promote sports that will be inspecting this year's Seoul facilities.

Agency Studies Operation of Nuclear Plants

*OW140943 Tokyo KYODO in English 0934 GMT
14 Feb 88*

[Text] TOKYO, Feb. 14 KYODO—The Agency of Natural Resources and Energy has begun studying the possibility of allowing Japan's nuclear power plants to operate continuously for a period of 15 months instead of the current 13 months in order to reduce generating costs, agency sources said Sunday.

The agency, affiliated with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, is likely to extend the current maximum successive operation period within this year upon getting confirmation on safety, they said.

Electric power industry leaders say the change would be beneficial since there is only a two yen difference per one kilowatt/hour between the cost of nuclear power and those of coal and oil power following the yen's appreciation and crude oil price cuts.

The generation cost of nuclear power plants per one kilowatt hour is around 9 yen, while that of coal power plants is 10 to 11 yen and oil presently around 11 to 12 yen.

The utilization rate of Japanese nuclear power plants hit a record 79.5 percent last year and the extension of continuous operation would help improve efficiency and output, the sources added.

IAEA Director Addresses Issue of Safety

*OW150631 Tokyo KYODO in English 0602 GMT
15 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 KYODO—International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Hans Blix on Monday called for improving nuclear safety by reducing human errors at atomic power plants.

Blix, speaking at the opening of an international meeting here on nuclear plant safety, said human error is a factor in about half of all accidents worldwide at such power generating sites.

"Greater public acceptance of nuclear power will depend on whether we can avoid serious accidents for an extended period of time," Blix said at the conference on man-machine interface in the nuclear industry.

Improving the relationship between plant and equipment design and human operators could improve operation safety at the nearly 400 nuclear power stations worldwide, the former Swedish foreign minister said.

He noted that plants with excellent performance records also tend to have better safety records.

Hideo Uchida, chairman of Japan's Nuclear Safety Commission, told the 400 or so nuclear experts from 29 countries that human operation should be reduced as much as possible in favor of automation.

Improved training for plant operators and the use of simulators are needed to respond to unexpected incidents, Uchida said.

Kunikazu Aisaka, deputy director general of the Agency of Natural Resources and Energy, said that while mechanical reactor failures at Japanese nuclear plants have decreased from four cases per year in 1971 to 0.6 cases annually since 1984, failures caused by human error remain about the same.

"Human misses that account for about 20 percent of all incidents and failures (in Japan) are not few enough," Aisaka said in a conference paper.

Fifty-four percent of the 41 operator misses from 1969 to 1986 led to automatic shutdowns of nuclear reactors and 15 percent led to power reductions, he said. The remaining 32 percent had no effect, Aisaka reported.

The six-day conference is sponsored by the IAEA in cooperation with the Japanese government and two international sponsors.

Houses Passes Supplementary Budget
*OW180845 Tokyo KYODO in English 0836 GMT
18 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—The House of Representatives passed a 2,033.9 billion yen supplementary budget for fiscal 1987 ending March 31 at a plenary session Thursday. The budget was later referred to the House of Councillors.

The budget was approved after a two-day deliberation at the lower house's budget committee from Wednesday. It aims at expanding domestic demand by increased public investment.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party was in favor of the budget but the Japan Socialist Party, Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party and the Japan Communist Party opposed it.

Opposition parties argued that natural growth in tax revenues should be returned to the people to improve the standard of living and that defense spending should be reduced to below 1 percent of Japan's gross national product (GNP).

The House of Councillors is scheduled to hold two-day budget committee sessions Friday and Saturday to discuss the supplementary budget.

The budget will come into force when the upper house plenary session passes it Saturday afternoon.

NASDA Launches Telecommunications Satellite
*OW191049 Tokyo KYODO in English 1036 GMT
19 Feb 88*

[Text] Tanegashima, Kagoshima Pref., Feb. 19 KYODO—The National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA) launched a sophisticated communications satellite Friday at 7:05 p.m. using its recently perfected three-stage H-I rocket.

The new communications satellite, CS3A, separated from the H-I rocket 26 minutes after launch. It is scheduled to be put into geostationary orbit roughly 36,000 kilometers above the equator on February 21, and begin operations as a communications relay platform in the middle of May.

The CS3A is a cylindrical satellite weighing about 550 kilograms, measuring 2.18 meters in diameter and 2.43 meters in length. Meant as a follow-on to the Sakura 2 currently in orbit, the CS3A is expected to have a seven-year life span.

The new satellite is equipped with 12 transponders giving it 1.5 times the transmission capability of the Sakura 2. In telecommunications terms, this is the equivalent of 6,000 telephone circuits.

In addition, the CS3A is equipped with the first high-power conversion gallium arsenide solar cells ever fitted to a satellite, and it has improved batteries that will allow it to operate in the earth's shadow so that it can provide 24-hour communications service.

The new satellite, which cost 11.5 billion yen to fabricate, boasts a Japanese technology ratio of 80 percent. When the rocket and tracking costs are included, the total cost of launching the satellite comes to 27.17 billion yen.

From the middle of May, the CS3A is scheduled to begin service as a communications and broadcasting satellite mainly serving government agencies such as the National Police Agency and the National Land Agency. It will also serve several private companies, including Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT).

NTT plans to route long-distance calls through the satellite when circuits are overloaded, while companies such as NEC Corp. and Fujitsu Ltd. plan to conduct employee education using the satellite as a relay.

In addition, the Japan Railways Group plans to establish an earthquake detection system on the Shinkansen (bullet train) line running from Tokyo to the northeastern part of Japan using a circuit of the CS3A.

The new communications satellite was originally scheduled to be launched on February 1, but had to be delayed when faulty integrated circuits were discovered in the H-I launch rocket.

Mongolia

First Stage of PRC Border Trade Talks Held
*OW172323 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 17 Feb 88*

[Text] The first stage of the Mongolian-Chinese border trade talks were held in Ulaanbaatar recently. Now Mr Bold, an expert at the Mongol Export Amalgamation at

the Foreign Economic Relations and Procurement Ministry of Mongolia, who took part in the talks, will comment in depth. [Begin Bold recording in Mongolian fading into English translation] Mongolia and China signed a protocol on border trade in 1985 and during the [word indistinct] period the volume of border trade and the variety of goods exchanged had grown. For example, in 1985 (?total) goods turnover in border trade was 0.6 million Swiss francs, which, in 1987, was 7.4 million francs. This year, we agreed on a 4 million Swiss francs border trade, during which Mongolia would supply China with sawn timber, camel wool, horse hair, animal bone, [word indistinct] garments, old rubber tires, paper, and iron, and in exchange will receive from China tarpaulin, broad cloth, [word indistinct] clothes, and items for industrial production. [end recording]

The next stage of the bilateral border trade talks will be held in March this year in Hohhot, says Bold from the Mongol Export Amalgamation.

Leaders Greet CPSU's Shcherbitskiy
*OW180855 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian
1430 GMT 17 Feb 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 17 Feb (MONTSAME)—The MPRP Central Committee has sent a congratulatory telegram to V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine Central Committee, on the occasion of his 70th birthday. The telegram states:

The MPRP Central Committee highly values your high input into strengthening the relations of fraternal friendship and close cooperation between our parties, countries, and people.

[Words indistinct] new and large successes in your multifaceted activity, directed at [words indistinct].

Sodnom Speaks at Council of Ministers Session
*OW180237 Ulaanbaatar Montsame in Russian
1450 GMT 12 Feb 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 12 Feb (MONTSAME)—An expanded session of the MPR Council of Ministers Presidium discussed the results of the implementation of the 1987 and January 1988 plans for the country's economic and social development, after it had heard the report of P. Jasray, Deputy Chairman of the MPR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the MPR State Committee for Planning and Economy.

It was noted that the fixed productive capital of the MPR national economy increased in the first 2 years of the Eighth 5-Year Plan by 7.9 percent, and the country's national income in 1987 increased by 9.2 percent against that of 1985. The volume of production output increased

in the 2 years by 13 percent, and the average annual output of agricultural production increased by 14 percent against the average annual index of the previous 5-year plan period.

The plan tasks of raising the people's well-being are being implemented. Monetary income of people increased by 10 percent in the past 2 years and the retail trade turnover also increased.

However, it was noted that the planned levels of many indices of economic and social development were not achieved. In particular, the wrecking of the plans for the growth of the national income, the production of agricultural products, and the commissioning of new facilities, was tolerated last year. Last January, the shortage of the net industry output constituted 0.7 million tugriks. There is no noticeable change in the expansion of the consumer services for working people in rural regions.

D. Sodnom, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the MPR Council of Ministers, spoke at the session. In particular, he dwelt on the tasks of intensifying the changes in the economic methods of management.

Central Committee Resolution on Wage Increase
*OW180153 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 16 Feb 88*

[Text] The MPRP Central Committee has adopted a resolution on increasing the salaries and wages of state publication and service workers, as well as other categories of workers at vocational technical schools, kindergartens, and nurseries.

The resolution envisages an 11.7-percent increase in the wages of rural and urban [words indistinct] of workers, a 6.4-percent increase in the wages of masters of vocational technical schools, and a 9.3 to 14 percent growth in the salaries and wages of educators in schoolrooms and kindergartens.

In the current 5-year period, subsequent measures (?will be) taken to increase the wages of rural workers in state and publication services.

Defense Popularization Campaign Continues
*OW180307 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 16 Feb 88*

[Text] The 33rd month of popularizing the tasks of defense started in Mongolia last Sunday, as a part of undertakings in giving the youth a military, patriotic outlook and educating them in the spirit of patriotism.

Although remarkable changes have emerged in international military and political life, one must not forget the aggressive design of the imperialist forces. That is why today, as never before, greater attention must be given to the patriotic education of the working people, particularly youth.

Party Committee Plans New Mass Organization
*OW171411 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 17 Feb 88*

[Text] The party Central Committee deems as correct the expansion of the Committee of Veterans of Revolutionary Struggle into a mass public organization. This was said at the meeting of the Central Committee of the party between Namsay, Secretary of the MPR Central Committee, and the representatives of the Veterans of the Revolutionary Struggle, Veterans of the Party, Labor, and the Armed Forces.

This act will give the veterans an opportunity to take a much more and broader participation in all spheres of social, political, and cultural life of the country and improve the aid and support to the veterans. The committee will be organized into a mass organization during a special conference planned for March this year in Ulaanbaatar.

Party, Government Greet Rural Workers
*OW190029 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English
1725 GMT 18 Feb 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 18 February (MONTSAME)—The MPRP Central Committee, Presidium of the MPR Great People's Hural and the Council of Ministers of the MPR have congratulated livestock breeders, crop growers, machine operators, workers and experts of state and cooperative agricultural organizations on the day of cooperated farmers coinciding with the traditional Lunar New Year.

The message says that the party and government highly value the creative activity of work collectives and foremost workers who have tangibly contributed to the attainment of the Five-Year Plan targets and achieved high successes in the fulfilment of the 1987 plan tasks. Livestock breeders and coop members by their selfless work reduced last year [words indistinct] unwarranted losses of livestock and 12 aimags (provinces) coped with their plans for increasing the livestock population. The planned tasks have been overfulfilled on a number of indicators: 8 aimags increased the dam population, many soums (provincial districts) and farms increased the total livestock population, surplus quantity of main types of agricultural products was supplied to the state. The production of land farming output has increased as compared with the average annual showing of the previous five-years (1981-1985) and the two-year plan targets (1986-1987) for producing grain, potato and animal feed have been fulfilled.

The congratulatory message goes on to say that the 4th plenary meeting of the MPRP (December 1987) analysed the state of affairs in livestock breeding and pointed to ways for carrying out the tasks set forth by the 19th Congress of the MPRP in developing agriculture, improving the food supply to the population, and solving the social problems of rural workers.

The perfection of management, planning, economic mechanism, introduction of such advanced forms of labour organization as self-accounting, collective and family contracts, steady [words indistinct] and creative activity of work collectives and individuals are the main factors of implementing the tasks on intensification, increasing agricultural production and improving the efficiency and quality in this sphere.

Each council of an agricultural cooperative, says the message, should focus its attention on the perfection of labour organization in coops in a close linkage with radical improvement (?of working) and living conditions (?as well as cultural) standards of rural workers.

The matter of honour for our crop growers is to consolidate the achieved successes and attain the 1988 plant-targets, making a concrete step towards increasing the production and improving the quality of output and increasing the food supply to the population by introducing intensive techniques in land cultivation [words indistinct] the level of workers' qualification, the message underscores.

The MPRP Central Committee, the Presidium of the Great People's Hural and the Council of ministers to the MPR wish good health, peace, happiness and well-being to rural workers.

Commentary on Gorbachev's Afghan Initiative
*OW141145 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 10 Feb 88*

[Station commentary]

[Text] The statement of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on Afghanistan is designed to sharply change the course of events toward solving one of the most difficult and painful regional problems.

The situation in and around Afghanistan has never before [word indistinct] open for a settlement. This is a real opportunity, and the most important thing now is not to (?handicap) but to help all those [words indistinct] in dealing with this in such a settlement to avail themselves of this unique opportunity. It is also important that everyone contributes his share to this cause, and this applies to both the east and the west and particularly to the countries in the region—Pakistan, India, and Iran.

Striving to facilitate the quickest and successful conclusion of the Afghanistan-Pakistan talks in Geneva, the Soviet Union and Afghanistan agreed to set a concrete

date for the withdrawal of Soviet troops [words indistinct] in May this year and complete their pullout within a period of 10 months. This is [word indistinct] naturally on the understanding of the signing of the agreement on the settlement will not be later than 15 March this year. The Soviet leader emphasized that the Soviet troop withdrawal could begin even earlier if the agreement is signed before 15 March, and that first of all much larger Soviet contingents could be withdrawn.

This is indeed a practical proposal of sweeping significance, as also stated by Afghan President Najibullah in his [word indistinct] statement on the Afghan problem.

The Afghans are known as a proud, peace-loving, and courageous nation and only they themselves have the right to decide on all matters connected with their national reconciliation and the creation of a coalition government.

Acknowledging this, the Soviet leadership announced that its concern is to help the Afghan people receive a firm guarantee against interference from outside. Mikhail Gorbachev emphasized that should the people of Afghanistan opt for a nonaligned and neutral state, the Soviet Union would only be too pleased to have such a neighbor and further noted that the USSR lives and will continue to live in the Leninist tradition with a friendly Afghanistan.

This is striking evidence of the new thinking that has forced its way to untie the Afghan (?knot). Conflict has been going on in Afghanistan for many years now and this bitter fact has [word indistinct] the truth that in our days, armed conflict of all kinds can only poison the situation in contiguous countries, or parts of those countries, not to mention the sufferings and casualties of the people of the very country involved in the conflict.

The policy of national reconciliation is considered in Mongolia as an act of immense civil courage. The Afghan leadership not only calls for a mere end of the armed struggle but also for the creation of a coalition government, for the sharing of power with the opposition. Such an unprejudiced approach draws a profound response, for the Afghan people are very [words indistinct] for peace.

Elaboration of the documents embracing all aspects of the settlement of the Afghan problem has almost been completed thanks to the cooperation of the UN secretary general and his personal envoy Diego Cordovez, and the Mongolian people sincerely hope that the upcoming indirect Afghanistan-Pakistan talks will be the last one in the final round. There are hopes that the Afghan settlement will become the first [word indistinct] of the numerous countries which continue to flare up in Asia and in the south of Africa and Latin America. It will undoubtedly push the settlement of other regional conflicts within several years, and for this no efforts must be spared.

Views on Chinese-Philippines Relations
*OW190931 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 18 Feb 88*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Filipino President Corazon Aquino has declared her desire to visit China this coming April. At a meeting in Manila last week with a delegation from the Chinese province of Fujian, Aquino expressed the hope of strengthening Filipino-Chinese relations and said that a great number of Chinese nationalities, whose ancestors were of Fujian origin, live in the Philippines.

In this, historically China and the Philippines have a long standing rather close contact in different spheres. In an interview with a Japanese newspaper NIHON KEI-ZAI, Corazon Aquino noted that her ancestors were of Chinese origin and she would like to see, with her own eyes, the country from where her family has traced its root.

According to Aquino, the two countries are mutually dependable in the sphere of economy. The Filipino president voiced the confidence that during her visit to China she could reach an understanding with the Chinese leadership aimed in part at developing trade.

It must be emphasized that the present level of trade and economic relations between the two countries leaves much to be desired. The annual volume of bilateral trade stands at only \$230-\$250 million while the Philippines always incurring deficit on itself.

Political observers view the recent instructions of Aquino on banning visits by Filipino officials to Taiwan and the visit by representatives of Taiwan authorities to the Philippines as a striving to dissipate distrust that had emerged of late in the relations between the Philippines and China. Last summer witnessed serious friction in Sino-Filipino relations with the visit to Taiwan of Filipino Vice President Salvador Laurel and the arrival in the Philippines of a high-ranking trade delegation from Taiwan.

Beijing was also indignant when one of the official Philippine documents called Taiwan the Republic of China, which essentially meant the recognition of Taiwan as a sovereign state. In an attempt to settle the conflict, Manila had to make officials apologize and confirm its loyalty to steadily conduct the so-called policy of one China. But the Taiwan problem in Sino-Filipino relations has not been fully resolved.

Representatives of Taiwan business circles continue their private visits to the Philippines and the Filipino-Taiwan trade is developing further. Last week it was announced in Taipei that a petrol-chemical industry is planned to be erected in the Philippines with the participation of Taiwanese firms.

But it is not only the ties of the Philippines with Taiwan that has impaired the relations between Manila and Beijing. Last November China and the Philippines made statements once again voicing mutual claims on the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea. China calls the Spratlys Nansha Qundao and the Philippines Kalayaan which occupies 8 out of the about 500 islands of this group.

In their official statements both China and the Philippines put forward their own mutually incontestable historical and theoretical substantiations concerning Spratlys' affiliation. It is noteworthy that the Taiwan regime also advances its right to the sovereignty over the islands. Taiwan troops are located on the largest of the islands of this group.

A statement made by Filipino National Security Council Director Emanuel Soriano also helped to sour Sino-Filipino relations. Late last year he accused China of an attempt to illegally supply weapons to the Filipino insurgents. It's true that following Beijing official denial Soriano withdrew his accusation against China. But nevertheless, the unpleasant feeling of resentment remained and so president Corazon Aquino will have quite a tough talk in Beijing with the Chinese leadership designed at resolving the problems that hamper the betterment of the relations between the two countries.

Briefs

New Communications Facility

[Words indistinct] Suhbaatar. The construction of the new communications facility was implemented by the Soviet construction organizations in the MPR. The operation of the new line will allow residents in more than 40 cities and other rural settlements to watch the national television programs through the Orbita system. At the same time, the power of interurban communications will increase by a factor of several dozens, residents of this region will be able to have telephone conversations with any country of the world, and the reception of all the country's radio broadcast stations will be improved.
[Text]/Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1448 GMT 12 Feb 88 OW]

North Korea

South Accused of Gunfire Across DMZ

SK190649 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
0619 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] The South Korean puppets have perpetrated large-caliber machineguns fire at our side's posts.

At around 0820 today, the South Korean puppets committed the grave military provocation by firing many rounds from large-caliber machineguns at our side's posts from the demilitarized area southeast of Mt Osong-san in the central front.

At dawn this morning, scores of the South Korean puppet soldiers laid ambushed in the position beforehand and committed the premeditated armed provocation against our side's posts on the opposition side.

Because of this, our side's civil police members, who were carrying out routine duty, were threatened and the facilities in the posts were destroyed.

That the grave firing of machineguns was perpetrated at the same time as the aggressive "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise is being staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets shows how frantically the rascals are running amok to provoke a new war by artificially straining the situation on the Korean peninsula.

This incident did not expand into an armed clash between the two sides entirely because our side did not return fire and demonstrated patience and self-control.

The South Korean puppets should clearly realize the consequences that will be brought about by such a reckless firing incident and should act with discretion.

MAC Senior Member Protests

SK191537 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1500 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] The senior member of our side to the MAC has sent a message of protest to the senior member of the U.S. side.

On 19 February, the senior member of our side to the MAC sent a message of protest to the senior member of the U.S. side in connection with the enemy side's babbling about a fabricated incident as if our side had directed machinegun fire at a guard post of its side on the evening of 17 February.

The message of protest reads:

According to the result of an investigation conducted by our side, your side's denunciation of our side for directing machinegun fire at your side's area from a guard post of our side was totally groundless. Not a gun has been fired at your side's area from any of the guard posts of our side.

We strongly protest and denounce your side's deliberate act of exacerbating tension in the areas around the Military Demarcation Line by provoking us with a fabricated firing incident.

We cannot but regard as very seriously your side committing such a fabricated act, which is timed to coincide with your side's staging of the aggressive "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise.

The United States and the persons in authority in South Korea can never escape their responsibility for exacerbating tension on the Korean peninsula, whatever scheme they may try, nor can they justify the aggressive "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise.

If your side has even a modicum of interest in peace and security on the Korean peninsula, your side should immediately abandon the adventurous "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise instead of clinging to fabricating incidents and should take thorough measures to prevent such acts as the grave armed provocative act committed against a guard post of our side on the (?morning) of 17 February, which we have already protested, from occurring again.

"Gestures" Protested

*SK191423 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1300 GMT 19 Feb 88*

[Text] A meeting of the MAC Security Officers on the spot was held today in the Joint Security Area [JSA] in Panmunjom at our request.

At the meeting, our side strongly protested against the U.S. imperialist aggressors' violent violation of the Military Armistice Agreement and agreement between the two sides, threatening the safety of our security personnel, insulting their personality, and obstructing them from carrying out their duty in various ways and called the enemy to account.

According to our side's security officers, at about 1224 on 18 February, a soldier of the U.S. imperialist troops of aggression at a guard post in an observatory tower southeast of the MAC conference room shouted and displayed shabby and filthy gestures toward our security personnel during their routine duty at our guard posts on the opposite side. Although it was a deliberate provocation, our security personnel did not react to it and exercised self-control and patience. Seeing this, the soldier of the U.S. imperialist troops of aggression, after gesturing to our personnel to come over, shook his fist and continued his gesture of threatening to strike as if wielding a club.

Such provocative acts were also committed at about 1720 and 1722 on 3 February and again at about 1020 on 14 February.

Also, at about 2115 on 18 February, a soldier of the U.S. imperialist troops of aggression, who was on a high hill northwest of the JSA, turned a searchlight mounted on top of a guard post there on [word indistinct] of our side's guard posts on many occasions. Again at about 1815 on 16 February, after provoking the personnel in the guard posts of our side from the same spot with shouts, he turned the searchlight on them when it became dark.

This is a deliberate and premeditated provocative act designed to further aggravate the confrontation between security personnel of the two sides in the JSA as well as a violent violation of the agreement between the two sides.

The security officer of our side lodged a strong protest with the enemy for having committed such grave provocative acts in the JSA and strongly demanded that the enemy side harshly punish the provocateurs, remove the searchlight, and take responsible measures so that such provocative acts would not occur again.

However, the enemy would not admit their transgressions, nor would they guarantee to take responsible measures.

After stating that the enemy's acts are an expression of their indifference concerning security in the JSA and a challenge to the agreement between the two sides, the security officer of our side continued: The U.S. imperialist aggressors obstructed our personnel from carrying out their routine duty by using language that threatens and insults our personnel and by turning a searchlight on them, while introducing, almost daily, a larger number of armed personnel than agreed upon.

Last 25 January, they even set fire to a large number of trees, including fruit-bearing trees, that our side had sincerely cultivated in the area of our side in the JSA, thereby destroying them.

The occasions of the U.S. imperialist aggressors' provocations and violation have drastically increased in recent days.

Whereas the number of incidents committed by the enemy side in this area reached 30 during January, the number during February has reached 25 cases as of 18 February.

The security officer of our side stated that at a time when the situation in our country has become more tense than ever because of the war exercise and confrontational commotions being committed by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, the fact that the enemy's provocations and violations have become more frequent cannot but be regarded seriously.

In conclusion, the security officer of our side gravely warned that the U.S. imperialist aggressors' exacerbating the tension while continuously committing provocations and violations will never bring good results to them.

Further Talks on Olympics Ruled Out
*OW190651 Tokyo KYODO in English 0618 GMT
19 Feb 88*

[Text] Calgary, Feb. 18 KYODO—North Korea's participation in this year's Seoul Olympics has become virtually impossible as a top North Korean Olympic official Thursday ruled out the possibility of any further talks on the Olympic cohosting issue—the first such reference by Pyongyang.

In an exclusive interview with KYODO News Service, Chang Ung, secretary general of the North Korean Olympic Committee, said the fact that South Korea has ignored Pyongyang's earlier call for a bilateral political meeting this month is tantamount to its refusal. He added that there is nothing North Korea can do to break the deadlock on the issue.

His comment, therefore, signals the end of the on-again, off-again bilateral sports negotiations, which began in October 1985 on the initiative of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to discuss Pyongyang's demand for a share of the games.

Chang had said only recently North Korea was thinking of reconsidering its earlier stance on the Olympics if South Korea agreed to hold the meeting.

North Korea declared on January 12 that it would not take part in the Olympic games "singly held in South Korea" and instead proposed that a North-South joint conference be held February 19 in the truce village of Panmunjom among government ministries from the two sides and representatives of political parties.

Chang, who left for home Thursday via Moscow, flatly denied a report that some North Korean Olympic officials may carry out a "token" participation in the Seoul games.

U.S., South, Japan UN 'Conspiracy' Denounced
SK190511 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0450 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 19 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN Friday comments on bringing up the South Korean jetliner incident in the U.N. Security Council by the United States, Japan and South Korean puppets, groundlessly charging the DPRK with it.

The author of the commentary says:

As it is fully exposed to the world that the KAL incident was premeditated by the United States, Japan and South Korean puppets, they staged such an absurd farce of kicking up a new shocking row on an international arena to conceal their heinous conspiracy on all accounts, shift the responsibility on to us and impair the international authority of the DPRK.

The organizer of this farce is, of course, the United States. The U.S. imperialists have laid the KAL incident before the international arena in an attempt to divert elsewhere the attention of the people who have risen up in the struggle for independence against U.S. and for democracy against fascism in South Korea, tide over the crisis of their puppet colonial rule there and, at the same time, to make an excuse for keeping as ever the U.S. forces in South Korea and intensify their policy of division and war against the Korean people.

The Japanese reactionaries are helping the United States and backing the South Korean puppets in a bid to push ahead with their hostile policy toward the DPRK and their reinvasion of South Korea.

By internationalizing the KAL incident, the South Korean puppets try to cover their true color as culprits of massacring fellow countrymen, more zealously pursue confrontation with us and, at the same time, seek a pretext for harshly cracking down upon the anti-U.S., anti-"government" struggle of the South Korean people and extending the military dictatorial rule.

We scathingly denounce the smear campaign launched by the United States, Japan and South Korean puppets as an intolerable challenge to the DPRK, mockery of and insult to the unbiased public opinion of the world and the U.N. Charter.

It is a height of folly for the United States to think that they can go unhurt now after committing the same crime as was done at the time of the Korean war when they provoked the war and covered it up with the U.N. flag.

USSR Embassy Official Holds News Conference
SK190436 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0424 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 19 (KCNA)—A press conference was held at the Soviet Embassy in Pyongyang on February 18 to mark the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Naval Fleet.

Pavel Doroshenko, acting military attache of the Soviet Embassy, spoke at the press conference.

He referred to the militant path traversed by the Soviet Armed Forces and achievements made by the Soviet people and Army in the revolution and construction over the past 70 years.

Pointing to the international situation, he said that the U.S. imperialists are now working desperately to convert the prevailing military and strategic equilibrium in their favour and hold military predominance over socialism.

He denounced the large-scale "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal participated in by the U.S. forces and South Korean puppet army over 200,000 strong.

Noting that the Soviet Union fully supported the efforts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to solve the Korean question in a peaceful way, clear South Korea of the U.S. forces and its nuclear weapons and convert the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone, he said: The Soviet Union expresses solidarity with the new proposals put forward by Comrade Kim il-song in his new year address for 1988, considering that they will help consolidate peace and security in Korea.

Prime Minister on Official Visit to India

For Delhi media reportage on the visit of Prime Minister Yi Kun-mo to India, including his meetings with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and other leaders, see the South Asia section of the 18 February Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

WPK, PRC Embassy Mark Lunar New Year's Day
SK190434 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0428 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 19 (KCNA)—The International Department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea arranged a friendship gathering on February 18 for the officials of the Chinese Embassy in Pyongyang on the occasion of the Lunar New Year's Day.

Attending there were Deputy Department Directors of the WPK Central Committee Kim Chae-pong and Kim Yang-kon and other officials concerned.

Invited there were Chinese ambassador Wen Yezhan and his embassy officials.

The participants appreciated the Korean feature film "New Legend of River Piryu."

Then a reception took place.

Speeches were made there.

Daily Denounces Chon's Anti-North Remarks
SK131037 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1029 GMT 13 Feb 88

[“Death-bed Wriggling of Traitor”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 13 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today in a signed commentary notes that the traitor Chon Tu-hwan spoke ill of the DPRK, inciting the anti-communist confrontation, at a “joint meeting of the executive committee and the standing committee of the Political Advisory Council for Peaceful Unification” on February 11.

Branding this vilification of the traitor who flew again into a fitful cry just on the eve of his retirement as death-bed wriggling of an anti-communist fanatic with a sword for northward invasion hidden behind his clothes, the commentary says:

By nature the traitor Chon is a thorough-paced anti-communist fanatic who has never been well-favored toward us but pursued the line of division, confrontation and war against peace and reunification, crying from the outset that “there should only confrontation with the North and peaceful reunification is inconceivable.” [sentence as received]

He is obsessed with anti-communist confrontation even now when he should get out of “Chongwadae.” Such sorry sight of his shows one once again clearly that the traitors would carry their dyed-in-the-wool treacherous quality to their grave.

Unless such anti-communist fanatics who take the road to treachery are thoroughly purged and destroyed is it impossible to solve the question of peace and reunification.

The traitor No Tae-u is a colonial puppet and fascist dictator overshadowing the traitor Chon. A “transfer of power” to him means more furious crackdown on people and more undisguised moves toward North-South confrontation, division and war in South Korea.

Saying the reality urgently calls upon the South Korean people to decisively get rid of the group of traitors, the commentary warns that the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group should act with discretion.

No's Commitment to Democratization Questioned
SK190426 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0414 GMT 19 Feb 88

[“False Smile, Real Suppression”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 19 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today denounces the traitor No Tae-u for becoming ever more vociferous about “concord” and “democratisation”.

Noting that each time the traitor opens his mouth he would not forget to jabber that he would build a “state to be participated in by all people” and have frequent “contact” and “dialogue” with “ordinary people”, the author of the commentary says:

Although the traitor No Tae-u put up a signboard of “concord” and “democratisation”, he has no intention at all to realise them.

A proof of this is the “revision of the law on the National Assembly election” being staged by the No Tae-u group prattling about “concord” and gathering opposition parties. The puppets behave in a crafty way, saying that they would “strictly follow” the will of the people but they, in actuality, insist on the “proposal” of the “Democratic Justice Party”. And when it runs up against the resistance of opposition parties, the puppets took issue with the “negotiation stand” of opposition parties and threatened that the “proposal” would be dealt with by “majority approval” at the “National Assembly” on the plea of “political timetable.”

This shows that the traitor No Tae-u threw away even the cloak of “negotiation” with opposition parties, to say nothing of dialogue with the popular masses.

It is a crafty deceptive trick that the traitor No Tae-u manufactured a fraudulent tool called "Committee for the Promotion of Democracy and Concord" and jabbered about "statement of witnesses" and "discussion", clamouring that they are grasping the truth of the Kwangju incident and taking "measures to heal the wounds caused by it."

Under the cloak of "probing" into the Kwangju incident, the traitor is trying to extricate himself from the blame for the Kwangju massacre by hushing up its truth. The traitor No Tae-u is mocking the public opinion with smile operation on one hand and whetting the sword of fascism for the suppression of the people on the other. He is drastically reinforcing the police suppressive forces on the pretext of the "transfer of power," "National Assembly election" and the Olympics.

In particular, he issued the suppressive order called the three stage "special emergency alert order" on the threshold of his "inaugural ceremony" and openly threatened that he would mercilessly liquidate the "leftist pro-communist forces". This fully reveals his criminal intention to bestially crack down on the people resisting the extension of the military government.

The smile of the traitor No Tae-u before the people is false. To suppress the democratic forces and prolong the military government—this is his real intention.

Daily Criticizes Kwangju Investigation
SK131042 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1034 GMT 13 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 13 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppet clique foolishly attempted to conceal their brutal massacre with a talk about the true facts of the Kwangju incident.

This is the topic of a NODONG SINMUN commentary, today which says:

On February 9 Yi Hui-song, who was puppet martial law army commander at the time of the Kwangju incident, said in a written statement that since the bloodbath in Kwangju was an "event of occurrence in confusion while the two opposing sides were in a state of extreme excitement," it was "hard" to describe it as a "misdoing" of someone and "hard to distinguish between the exercise of one's right to self-defence and righteous self-defence." This is a third-rate trick to conceal the massacre of fellow countrymen by the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u military fascist junta and escape the responsibility for the act of nation-butcherly.

Branding Yi Hui-song as one of the criminals who drove the puppet army to the massacre in Kwangju, the commentary goes on:

It is the height of folly that they chose such murderer to tell the truth of the Kwangju incident. Moreover, it is an intolerable mockery of the South Korean people that they brought him to say it was hard to blame any particular one for the incident.

What cannot be overlooked is the fact that Yi said in his "statement" the "misunderstanding" that the boss of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces in South Korea set the puppet armed forces in motion in suppressing the Kwangju uprising, should be dispelled.

Such cock-and-bull story can be uttered only by such colonial running dogs who try to maintain their power on the strength of the American master.

The "Committee for the Promotion of Democracy and Concord" is, by nature, a tool of fraud invented by the traitor No Tae-u with the aim of deceiving and appeasing the South Korean people.

It is a sheer baloney that the Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u group, the chieftain of the Kwangju bloodbath, talked about probe into the truth of the Kwangju incident.

The operation of the fascist hangmen to conceal the truth of the Kwangju incident will only result in adding fuel to the rage of people against chief murderers, stresses the commentary.

Kim Chong-il Greeted by Japanese 'Mindan' Group
SK190416 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0408 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 19 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received on the occasion of his birthday messages of greetings from more than 110 compatriots under the influence of the South Korean Residents Association in Japan ("Mindan") who are residing in Tokyo metropolis, Hokkaido and 42 prefectures of Japan including Kyoto, Osaka, Aomori, Tochigi, Iwate, Akita, Aichi, Toyama, Hyogo, Yamaguchi, Kochi, Yamanashi and Kagoshima and South Koreans staying in Japan.

Noting that the birth of the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il who rose high as the sun of the guidance was a great national fete which fully opened a bright prospect for the future of Korea, all the messages extended greatest glory and warmest congratulations to him, reflecting boundless reverence of the compatriots. [sentence as received]

Endless are the national pride, confidence and happiness in holding in high esteem the great leader President Kim Il-song as the sun of the nation and the sagacious leader Mr. Kim Chong-il as the lodestar of Korea, they noted.

They stated that the great feats performed with his wise guidance by the dear leader who is brilliantly carrying forward the chuche cause of the great leader will be

everlasting and thanks to him the authority and dignity of the Korean nation are rising as the days go by and the future of the country and the nation will be bright and victory after victory will be won.

They expressed the firm resolution of the compatriots to give play in every way to patriotic enthusiasm on the road of the sacred cause of anti-U.S. independence and reunification and make all efforts for the realisation of the proposal for the convocation of a North-South joint conference, upholding with loyalty the wise guidance of the dear leader in order to accelerate the day of warmly welcoming the great leader President Kim Il-sung at the square of reunification.

They wholeheartedly wished Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and long life.

Foreign Leaders Greet Kim Chong-il on Birthday
SK191019 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1011 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 19 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings from foreign party and state leaders on the occasion of his birthday.

They came from Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic and secretary general of the Polisario Front, Didier Ratsiraka, general secretary of the Malagasy Vanguard of Revolution and President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee of the Party of the People's Revolution of Benin, president, head of state, chairman of the National Executive Council of the People's Republic of Benin, Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, Bhichai Rattakul, leader of the democratic party of Thailand, and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the United States of America.

The messages extended warmest congratulations to Comrade Kim Chong-il on his birthday and wished the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people greater progress and prosperity.

A message of greetings came to him from Guy Dupre, secretary general of the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea.

Kye Ung-tae Addresses Three Revolutions Meet
SK130900 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1103 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Report by Kye Ung-tae, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau, at a central report meeting held in the People's Palace of Culture, Pyongyang, on the afternoon of 11 February, to mark the 15th anniversary of the launching of the Three Revolutions Team [TRT] movement—portions recorded]

[Text] [Begin Kye Ung-tae recording] Comrades:

Today we mark the 15th anniversary of the launching of the TRT movement, under rewarding circumstances in which all workers throughout the country are dynamically accelerating a grand march of construction to make this significant year, the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Republic, a pride-filled year of victory in the history of our fatherland. They are effecting new upsurges in all fields of socialist construction, upholding the militant tasks assigned by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-sung in his New Year address.

Early in 1973 when our revolution and construction were developing onto a new higher stage under the banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—our party dispatched Three Revolutions Teams to many fields of the national economy. This was an epochal event that brought about a great change in our country's socialist construction. [applause]

Looking back, with a great revolutionary confidence and high pride, on the rewarding march over the past 15 years during which the TRT movement has been conducted under the wise leadership of the party and the leader, we are overflowing with firm resolve to expedite the complete victory of socialism and the consummation of the chuche revolutionary cause by further accelerating the powerful march in all fields of socialist construction while solidly adhering to our party's lines of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—and its policy of the TRT movement.

Comrades, the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—are the legitimate demand of socialist and communist construction and strategic lines to which our party consistently adheres in the struggle to consummate the communist cause by imbuing the entire society with the chuche idea.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-sung clearly illuminated the future path for the consummation of the communist cause with scientific insight into the significance and importance of the performance of the three revolutions in the revolutionary cause of realizing the independence of the popular working masses and by putting forth the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—as the general lines of our party in socialist and communist construction.

Our party's lines of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—are great revolutionary lines that scientifically delineated, for the first time in history, the basic aspects of the revolution, which should be carried out in a socialist society, and basic ways for capturing the ideological and material fortresses of communism.

A way has been opened to capture successfully the ideological and material fortresses of communism by thoroughly removing the legacies of the old society in many fields of social life, legacies that remain even after

the socialist revolution has gained victory and the socialist system has been established; by revolutionizing, working classizing, and intellectualizing of all members of society; and by reforming all fields of social life in conformity with the aspirations and demands of the working class. This way has been opened because the lines of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—were elucidated.

In our country, the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—began to be waged from the first period of the construction of a new society after the liberation. In particular, they have been comprehensively pushed ahead in a powerful way in all fields of social life since the socialist system was established.

Our party and people have been able to accelerate the cause of socialist and communist construction victoriously without any deviation or twists and turns because they have powerfully advanced under the banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural. Also, they have constantly been able to achieve great changes and reforms, which marvel the people of the world, in all fields of the revolution and construction.

Because of its justness, our party line of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—is powerfully encouraging the struggle of our party and people to consummate the chuche revolutionary cause, further giving play to great vitality with each passing day.

The three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—are a historic cause which can be successfully carried out only under the correct leadership of the party. During every period of time, our party has firmly guaranteed its leadership toward the three revolutions and has further enhanced its guidance of the three revolutions as the revolution and construction have developed.

The TRT movement, initiated and led by our party, is a new type of revolutionary guidance method for vigorously accelerating socialist and communist construction by more thoroughly realizing the party's revolutionary guidance toward implementing the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-sung has taught: Having initiated the TRT movement to strengthen its guidance toward the three revolutions in conformity with the new demands of the developing revolution, our party has formed Three Revolutions Teams with party cores and young intellectuals and has dispatched them to many sectors of the national economy.

The TRT movement, which has been dynamically waged in our country, has made it possible to implement successfully the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—in compliance with the party's idea and intention by ensuring that Three Revolutions Teams, which have been directly dispatched by our

party, can penetrate the intentions of the party center in a timely way among the masses hand in hand with party organizations at units concerned, powerfully organize and mobilize the masses to implement those intentions, and promptly and accurately reflect the opinions and demands of the masses to the party Central Committee, thus making party policy correctly embody their views and demands.

The revolutionary essence of the TRT movement lies in making it possible to vigorously accelerate socialist and communist construction by more thoroughly embodying the party's revolutionary leadership toward the three revolutions.

The TRT movement is a modern revolutionary guidance method that embodies the great Chongsan-ri spirit and method. The TRT movement makes it possible for strong guiding forces, which are formed with party cores prepared politically and ideologically and young intellectuals firmly armed with the chuche idea and equipped with modern science and technology, to solve pending problems in a timely way by combining political and ideological guidance with scientific and technological guidance and by mobilizing the masses on the basis of correctly analyzing the status of lower units while constantly remaining on the spot.

The superiority of the intrinsic essence of the TRT movement is to realize guidance toward the three revolutions not in a manual way but in a modern and scientific way by embodying the chongsanri spirit and method and by implementing the revolutionary mass line.

The TRT movement is a revolutionary guidance method that completely conforms to revolutionary styles in socialism. As long as the struggle to remove the legacies of the old society in a socialist society is a task with the popular working masses, the masters of the state and society, as its object, and a task conducted with the masses own strength, it should be waged in the manner that removes old things and creates new things by educating and remodeling the masses—the manner of [words indistinct] against the exploiting class and system.

The TRT movement makes it possible to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the popular masses with the party and the leader at the center by pushing ahead with the three revolutions by helping and leading functionaries at lower units in conformity with the key demands of a socialist society and by removing old things and creating new things and to successfully carry out socialist and communist construction by enhancing the revolutionary zeal and creative activity of the popular masses.

Indeed, the TRT movement is a most superior and powerful revolutionary guidance method. It makes it possible to vigorously accelerate the cause of imbuing the entire society with the chuche idea by further organizing

and activating the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—through firmly guaranteeing the [words indistinct] leadership toward the three revolutions and through embodying the great Chongsan-ri spirit and method.

The launching and steady development of the TRT movement in our country is the precious fruition of the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who has led the revolution and construction to constant upsurges by always grasping the mature demands of the developing revolution in a timely manner and by brilliantly realizing them, and of the energetic activities of our party center. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song launched the TRT movement, a new form of revolutionary guidance, to more dynamically push ahead with the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—at a new high stage of our development revolution where the cause of imbuing the entire society with the chuche idea has been highlighted, thereby providing another mighty impetus for our people's struggle for socialist construction.

When it was imperative for our people to accelerate the advance speed of socialist construction with higher goals in each ideological, technological, and cultural field, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song personally dispatched Three Revolutions Teams to many fields of the national economy, including the industrial and rural economic fields, and has wisely led Three Revolutions Team members to go down among lower units, concretely grasp the situation there, find correct ways for solving problems hand in hand with functionaries there, and powerfully organize and mobilize a broad range of masses to discharge the task of the three revolutions.

While dispatching Three Revolutions Teams, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song concretely expounded the purposes of our party's dispatching Three Revolutions Teams and their duties and work directions. At the historic Kango expanded meeting of the WPK Central Committee Political (?Committee), the Sixth WPK Congress, and other many important meetings of the party and the state, he has given programmatic teachings to further strengthen and develop the TRT movement.

In spite of his busy schedule with on-the-spot guidance in many fields of the national economy, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has concretely grasped the status of TRT activities and has powerfully led them to effect constant renovation in their work and activities.

The programmatic teachings given by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to strengthen and develop the TRT movement and his meticulous guidance of TRT projects have served as the source of power, which has helped every level of party organizations and three

revolutions teams effect a new turn in carrying out the three revolutions, and have served as a firm guarantee for steadily developing the TRT movement. [applause]

To further accelerate the three revolutions in all ideological, technological, and cultural fields, our party center has clearly presented, in every period of time, tasks which should be adhered to in TRT activities, and methods for discharging them, and has taken all types of measures to help Three Revolutions Teams smoothly carry out their duties and roles as the vanguard of the revolution.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has comprehensively delineated principled tasks and methods, which have arisen in enhancing TRT activities in conformity with the demands of developing realities in which the struggle to imbue the entire society with the chuche idea has been powerfully waged, and other theoretical and practical questions, which should be adhered to at all times, and has dynamically led the work of party organizations and Three Revolutions Teams with his tested leadership, thereby making it possible to effect new constant upsurges in performing the tasks of the three revolutions and in all fields of socialist economic and cultural construction.

The outstanding ideas and theories, which dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has presented to strengthen and develop the TRT movement, and the energetic activities which he has conducted to constantly develop it have served as a firm guideline for steady progress in the TRT movement and as the source of boundless strength. [applause]

Thanks to the wise leadership of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, an orderly system of guidance toward the TRT movement has been established and the principles and methods for TRT activities have been correctly defined, thereby enabling Three Revolutions Teams to be dispatched to everywhere in the country to dynamically conduct the TRT movement in conformity with the intention of the party always with clear norms for their activities and guidelines for their work.

According to the party's policy of building core rural bases well and of strengthening work in the agricultural field, in particular, great efforts have been exerted to the struggle to realize it. As a result, the role of three revolutions teams in solidifying the class bases in the rural areas and in developing agricultural production has been further increased.

The congress of TRT members, held in 1984 according to our party's conception of developing the TRT movement onto a new higher stage in conformity with realistic demands of socialist construction, established another epochal landmark in consolidating the achievements attained in the TRT movement, and in more vigorously pushing ahead with it.

Since the congress of TRT members, TRT activities, with teams dispatched to many fields of the national economy, have been further activated, and the TRT movement has been further deepened and developed in compliance with realistic demands of the revolution and construction.

Three Revolutions Teams have been dispatched to major production units according to the party's intention of even further increasing the TRT role in many fields of the national economy, of reinforcing TRT ranks, and of rapidly developing the science and technology of the country. As a result, great renovation in promoting the science and technology of the country and the overall economy onto an even higher stage has been effected.

Under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and our party, the role of party organizations and Three Revolutions Teams in carrying out the three revolutions has been increased and the entire party and all people have turned out to powerfully conduct the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural. Thus, the three revolutions have been even further deepened and developed, and our people have achieved a new advance and renovation every day along the road of imbuing the entire society with the chuche idea. [end recording]

Saying that the vitality of our party's policy of the TRT movement has been lucidly confirmed in the course of socialist construction in our country, the reporter talked about the great success attained in implementing the ideological revolution.

Saying that today our party members and workers have adopted the chuche idea, the revolutionary idea of our party, as their firm faith, and devote everything to the struggle to thoroughly implement the party's lines and policies with high loyalty to the party and the leader, the reporter noted that the task of the technological revolution has been powerfully pushed ahead in the course of the TRT movement and as a result, great successes have been attained in liberating workers from arduous and toilsome labor and in solidly building up the material and technological basis of socialism.

Pointing out that a great turn has also been effected in the struggle to implement the party's policy of the cultural revolution through the TRT movement, the reporter referred to the fact that the struggle to nurture all workers into competent socialist and communist builders and make our culture genuinely revolutionary and working class-oriented has been powerfully waged as a result of vigorously pushing ahead with the task of the cultural revolution under the wise leadership of the party.

The reporter further said: All proud achievements attained in the TRT movement under the banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—are the result of the wise leadership of the party and the leader and the proud fruition of the vitality of our party's lines of the three revolutions and its policy of the TRT movement. I extend the greatest honor and the warmest thanks to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song of our party and people and to dear Comrade Kim Chong-il who lead our people's movement of advance toward socialism and communism under the banner of the three revolutions to constant upsurges. He continued: [Begin recording] Comrades, we are assigned the honorable task of further consolidating the shining success and experience, which have already been attained in the TRT movement under the party's wise leadership, and of effecting constant renovation in pushing ahead with socialist construction and the three revolutions by more steadily developing the movement in conformity with the demands of developing realities.

The entire country is now surging with the labor struggle of all workers to successfully fulfill the grand Third 7-Year plan, make our fatherland more affluent and powerful, and expedite the complete victory of socialism by effecting new great revolutionary upsurges in all fields of socialist construction, upholding the militant tasks assigned by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his historic policy speech at the First Session of the Eighth SPA and in his New Year address.

The struggle to expedite the fulfillment of the Third 7-Year plan, a brilliant blueprint for socialist construction unfolded by our party, is an honorable struggle to further enhance the might of our country's self-reliant socialist national economy and to drastically improve the people's standard of living and is a rewarding struggle to bring about a decisive turn in winning the complete victory of socialism.

It is now time for the Three Revolutions Teams to fulfill their honorable duty as the vanguard of the three revolutions, the honorable defenders of the party's policy, and its active executors who have been educated and nurtured by the party, by unanimously turning out for the struggle by devoting all of their burning passion and creative wisdom to expediting the attainment of the party's grand long-range goals for socialist economic construction while cherishing loyalty to the party and the leader more deep in their hearts.

By giving full play to mass heroism and all creativity in single-hearted unity with workers, peasants, and other producing masses at every rewarding combat site of grand socialist construction, all TRT members should contribute to expediting the fulfillment of the Third 7-Year plan and to brilliantly realizing the grand 10-point long-range objectives for socialist economic construction.

In particular, by more powerfully accelerating the march of grand construction, in which a big stride has already been made, in this significant year they should expand and strengthen the basis of production and technology in the field of key industries; effect constant renovation in building grand monumental construction creations of the era of the Workers's Party, including the Sariwon potassium complex, the Sunchon vinalon complex, and Kwangbok Street; and enact another great upswing in all fields of socialist construction, thereby becoming honorable forerunners and the creators of heroic exploits in the struggle to display the might of chuche Korea and brilliantly celebrate the felicitous 40th anniversary of the founding of the Republic. [applause]

By firmly grasping the theses on our country's socialist rural problem, which is the grand program of socialist and communist rural construction unfolded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, and by thoroughly implementing the party's policy of giving priority to agriculture, the Three Revolutions Teams should struggle vigorously to effect a new turn in all sectors of rural construction and agricultural production. In particular, they should struggle vigorously to brilliantly implement our party's plan to complete in the coming years the fulfillment of the four major technological revolution tasks that have been elucidated in the theses: the introduction of the irrigation system and the electrification, mechanization, and chemicalization of the rural economy.

All sectors and units of the national economy should establish the strong planning discipline of maintaining production at a high level and fulfilling, without fail, the state plans by a daily quota, by a 10-day quota, by a monthly quota, by a quarterly quota, and by an index. They should also decisively increase transportation capability so as to keep abreast with production by concentrating greater efforts on the railway.

To successfully carry out the vast tasks of socialist construction facing us today, it is imperative that we push ahead continuously and vigorously with the ideological revolution, the technological revolution, and the cultural revolution, holding aloft the banner of the chuche idea. Only by holding aloft the banner of the chuche idea and by advancing along the single path indicated by the chuche idea can we not only carry out to the end our party's revolutionary cause of completely realizing the popular masses' independence—that is, the communist cause—but also achieve the eternal grandeur and prosperity of our fatherland and nation.

The three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—are our party's line of great socialist construction in which the chuche idea has been embodied. They are the basic method to model the whole society after the chuche idea.

By vigorously advancing and by firmly grasping our party's line of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—the correctness and vitality of which have already been proven through practice and its policy of the TRT movement, we should successfully carry out the vast task of socialist construction and should effect constant innovations in the struggle for remolding humanity, remaking nature, and remolding society. [applause]

Giving priority to the ideological revolution over all tasks is not only our party's consistent policy, but is also a principle that should be firmly adhered to in carrying out the three revolutions.

Today, our party has defined it as an important task to strengthen the subject of our revolution by conducting indoctrination in the chuche idea more broadly and deeply among our party members and working people and to ensure that the masses vigorously accelerate socialist construction by displaying their revolutionary zeal and creative positiveness.

By conducting indoctrination in the chuche idea more aggressively than ever before, upholding our party's policy of ideological revolution, the party organizations and the Three Revolutions Teams should ensure that party members and the working people can more properly prepare themselves to become genuine chuche-type communist revolutionaries who are firmly armed with a chuche-oriented revolutionary world outlook, who take all party lines and policies as their firm faith, and who highly display the revolutionary spirit of absoluteness and unconditionality in the implementation of these lines and policies.

We should conduct all forms of ideological indoctrination work with the party members and working people such as loyalty indoctrination, class indoctrination, socialism and patriotism indoctrination, revolutionary tradition indoctrination, and party policy indoctrination at a higher level in close combination with the fundamental principles of the chuche idea so that they can deeply cherish the loyalty to the party and the leader as their firm faith and fidelity, can firmly solidify the unity and cohesion of the entire party membership and all the people around the leader, can resolutely defend and protect the party and the leader politically and ideologically at the cost of their lives at any time and place, and can accelerate the revolution and construction in our own style with high national pride and self-respect. At the same time, we should ensure that they actively learn from the indomitable revolutionary spirit highly demonstrated by the fallen anti-Japanese revolutionaries so that they can highly demonstrate the spirit of resolutely adhering to the revolutionary fundamentalism and the working class position under any difficult condition and environment and wage an arduous struggle of self-reliance with a faith in victory and revolutionary optimism.

The ideological indoctrination work with the party members and working people should be closely combined with their revolutionary practice, and the result of the ideological indoctrination should be manifested in the practicing struggle of the grand socialist construction. All Three Revolutions Teams and functionaries should go deep into reality, as called for by the party's militant demand in regard to the entire party membership going among the masses and as called for by the Chongsan-ri spirit and method; should work and live with the producing masses; should actively explain and publicize the party's line and policy; and should actively conduct economic agitation, so that their revolutionary zeal and creative ability can be organized and mobilized to the utmost in socialist construction.

To firmly adhere to the technological revolution and vigorously push ahead with socialist economic construction is an important task set for us today. The important task our party has currently set for us is to realize the chucheization, modernization, and scientification of the people's economy. Party organizations and the Three Revolutions Teams should uphold our party's policy on technological revolution; make major efforts to solve the scientific and technological problems arising in strengthening the self-reliance and independence of the people's economy; and accelerate the mechanization, automation, robotization, and computerization of production processes, thereby waging an active struggle to enhance the level of technology and equipment in all sectors and place the production and managerial activities onto a newer and higher scientific base. In particular, we should step up the mass movement for technological innovation to vigorously evoke the broad producing masses to the task of technological revolution set forth by the party.

Today we live in an age of science and technology, and science and technology play a decisive role in economic development. There are no limits to the development of science and technology, which are the products of man's creative wisdom, and they give boundless potential whereby man can conquer nature and rule the world. The reality of our country's socialist construction urgently requires a rapid development of science and technology, and it is the firm determination of our party to boost the country's standard of science and technology to a world standard as soon as possible. All the TRT members, scientists, and technicians should intensify the struggle to boost the country's standard of science and technology in conformity with the requirements of the developing reality; firmly establish chuche and highly demonstrate collectivism in the work of scientific research; and actively contribute to accelerating the development of science and technology and the realization of the chucheization, modernization, and scientification of the people's economy.

Today it is imperative that the guidance on and management of economic works be further improved in order to effect new upsurges in production and technological development.

Party organizations and three revolutions teams should strengthen the (?collective) guidance and implement the mass lines of the party committee according to the demand of the great Taean work system, the justness and vitality of which have been proven through its practice, so that the guidance on and management of the economy can be further improved and unremitting upsurges and innovations in production and technological development can be effected.

Cultural revolution is an important task now facing our party. Upholding the party's policy concerning the cultural revolution, we should concentrate greater effort on a struggle to implement it so that greater new advances can be achieved in all domains of socialist cultural construction, including the educational work, public health work, art, and literature.

In the plants, enterprises, and cooperative farms to which they are assigned, all three revolutions teams should wage a more vigorous struggle designed to raise the degree of scientific and technological knowledge and cultural (?knowledge) of the producing masses as a whole, strengthen the struggle designed to establish the consciousness of productivity and tidiness in life, and positively help them to work and live according to the demand of the socialist modus vivendi.

Party organizations and three revolutions teams should vigorously carry out the uninterrupted movement to win the red flag of the three revolutions, the mass movement designed to implement the ideological revolution, technological revolution, and cultural revolution and the movement to emulate the examples set by unsung heroes, so that the three revolutions can more firmly become the work of the masses themselves.

Cherishing deep in their hearts the honorable mission and duty of the standard bearers of the three revolutions and the vanguard unit of the revolution, which they are and to which mission and duty they are assigned by the party, all TRT members should (?test) and discipline themselves continuously in a revolutionary manner and live up to the party's trust in and expectation of them by taking the lead in the struggle to implement the party's policies, with a high degree of revolution-mindedness, organization-mindedness, and struggle power.

For the Three Revolutions Teams to fulfill their share of responsibility and play their role in the struggle to implement the party's policies, they should be boundlessly loyal to the party leadership. [applause]

The Three Revolutions Teams, assuming the upholding the party leadership with loyalty as an iron rule governing their work and activities, should strengthen their revolutionary discipline of always accepting unconditionally the party's decisions and directives under any circumstances, of thoroughly carrying them out, and of moving as one according to the directives of the party center.

Today, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, doggedly ignoring the peace-loving proposals for national reunification that our party and the government of the Republic have advanced, are intensifying their maneuvers for confrontation, division, and war more than ever, while madly kicking up an anti-Republic slanderous commotion. Because of this, the situation in our country has become extremely acute and a pressing situation capable of triggering a war at any time has now been created on the Korean peninsula.

All party members, working people, and TRT members should highly raise their revolutionary vigilance against the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique's frantic anticommunist and anti-Republic slanderous commotions and their intensifying maneuvers to provoke a nuclear war; should place themselves in a posture of full mobilization capable of thwarting any kind of provocative maneuvers of the enemy by resolutely countering sanctions with sanctions and retaliation with retaliation; and should work and live militantly by being tense all the time.

The revolutionary cause of our people who are vigorously marching toward the eye-dazzling socialist and communist future under the banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technical, and culture—the banner of the great chuche idea, under the wise leadership of the party and leader, is invincible and ever-victorious and only still greater victory and glory are in store for us in the future.

Let us all vigorously advance the struggle by firmly uniting around the party center led by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song in order to hasten the complete victory of socialism and the cause of national reunification and to consummate the chuche cause. [applause]

Long live Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people! [applause and shouts of slogans]

Long live the glorious WPK, the organizer of all victories of the Korean people and their guide! [applause and shouts of slogans] [end recording]

Daily Discourses 'Lifeline' of Revolution
SK161130 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
0316 GMT 10 Feb 88

[NODONG SINMUN 10 February special article: "The Chuche Idea, Revolutionary Tradition, and Cohesion and Unity Are the Eternal Lifeline of the Korean Revolution"]

[Text] In our country today, the revolutionary cause of chuche pioneered in the forests of Mt Paektu is advancing victoriously. This is because our party is leading the Korean revolution, firmly grasping and adhering to the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity. The chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and

cohesion and unity are noble assets to brilliantly inherit and consummate the revolutionary cause of chuche and the eternal lifeline of the Korean revolution.

All ideologies, theories, and activities of our party are thoroughly directed toward safeguarding, defending, inheriting, and developing the chuche idea, the revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity.

Based on this strength, our party today displays its glory of being the great party which brilliantly consummates the revolutionary cause of chuche, holding aloft the banner of the revolution, and our revolution and construction are constantly advancing only along the single path of victory.

1. The chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity are the noble assets which are of fundamental significance in victoriously advancing and consummating the Korean revolution.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, has indicated: We should ensure that not only the present generations, but also the future generations can firmly grasp and adhere to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's ideology and theory as the eternal guiding ideology and guiding theory of the party; can firmly and stubbornly defend his revolutionary achievements, struggle experience, revolutionary work method, and people-oriented work style; and, thus, can brilliantly inherit and consummate the revolutionary cause of chuche.

For the party of the working class to lead the revolution and construction victoriously as the leading and guiding force for the popular masses, it should adhere firmly to the fundamental principle in its activity. For the party to adhere firmly to the fundamental principle of the revolution means that the party firmly defend and develop the most precious revolutionary assets which are of fundamental significance in achieving the victory of the revolution. This fundamental foundation, that is, the precious asset, is to be provided by the leader who pioneered the road of revolution for the first time.

The cause of the working class is precisely the cause of the leader. Therefore, it is advanced and consummated on the basis of the revolutionary achievements and assets achieved and registered by the leader. The assets achieved by the leader not only give vitality so that the revolutionary cause can consistently advance during the entire course of history, but also make it possible to constantly and steadily retain the lifeline of the revolutionary cause. Therefore, the assets provided by the leader at the dawn of the revolution constitute the basis to which the party of the working class and revolutionaries should firmly adhere.

Only by correctly grasping and adhering to the basis of the revolution can the party lead the revolutionary struggle and construction to the single path of victory and thoroughly ensure consistency and continuity of the revolutionary cause. For the party of the working class to firmly grasp and adhere to the basis of the revolution becomes a more important task as the revolution further advances.

All objects and things change and develop. The circumstances and conditions of the revolution in achieving the independence of the popular masses also constantly change. However, the party should not fail to adhere to the fundamental principle of the revolution just as revolutionaries should not forget their fundamental mission no matter how far the revolution may advance or how its circumstances may change.

When we fail to firmly grasp and adhere to the fundamental principle of the revolution, we cannot thoroughly defend the stand of the working class under changed circumstances nor can we steadily and consistently advance the revolution.

The revolutionary resoluteness of adhering to the stand and principle of the working class under all circumstances lies precisely in how the party of the working class grasps and adheres to the fundamental principle of the revolution. The creativity of correctly leading the revolution and construction in conformity with changed circumstances finds expression in the struggle to safeguard and defend the fundamental principle of the revolution.

The high honor, dignity, and ever victorious might of our party which leads the Korean revolution straight to victory with certainty lies in firmly grasping and adhering to the fundamental principle of the revolution. Our party has resolutely adhered to and defended the stand of the party of the working class under all circumstances and has creatively developed new theories, strategies, and tactics in conformity with the changing historical conditions. This is because our party has resolved all problems which arise in the revolution and construction while attaching weighty importance to the fundamental principle of the revolution.

The basis of the Korean revolution that our party has consistently adhered to is the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity created and developed by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-sung. The basic foundation in advancing, inheriting, and consummating the revolutionary cause of the working class should be such contents of pivotal significance that their firm adherence to the revolution and construction makes it possible to resolve all problems. It should also be the asset which has eternal vitality.

The basis of the revolution is, as elucidated by our party, precisely the guiding ideology, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity created and developed by the

leader. The guiding ideology, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity are of basic significance in carrying out the revolutionary cause of the working class.

The revolutionary cause is guided by the great guiding ideology created by the leader. It maintains its continuity by the revolutionary tradition and vigorously advances on the strength of the chuche-oriented might of cohesion and unity among the leader, the party, and the masses.

The guiding ideology, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity are the indispensable conditions in pioneering the destiny and future of the revolution. The guiding ideology is the only guiding principle which elucidates the future of the revolution. Only by thoroughly safeguarding the guiding ideology created by the leader and by embodying it in the revolution and construction can the cause of the working class be victoriously consummated without the slightest degree of deviation.

The revolutionary tradition is a precious revolutionary asset in consummating the cause of the working class and is the vein which inherits the party and the revolution. The revolutionary cause is advanced and consummated precisely through the course of defending, inheriting, and developing the revolutionary tradition.

Cohesion and unity of the leader, the party, and the masses are the source of the mighty strength of pushing ahead with the revolution. Cohesion and unity rallied around the party and the leader can overcome any difficulties, vigorously advance the revolution and construction, and firmly guarantee the victory of the revolution and construction.

The guiding ideology, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity which are of weighty significance in carrying out the revolutionary cause of the working class are closely related. The struggle to brilliantly embody the guiding ideology created by the leader makes it possible to inherit and develop the revolutionary tradition and to thoroughly realize the cohesion and unity of the leader, the party, and the masses based on one and single ideology.

At the same time, only by inheriting and developing the revolutionary tradition can the revolutionary ideology of the leader be thoroughly safeguarded and defended and cohesion and unity of the leader, the party, and the masses be firmly deepened.

The guiding ideology and revolutionary tradition cannot be correctly inherited apart from the struggle to strengthen cohesion and unity. This is precisely why we should advance, firmly and unitedly grasping the guiding ideology, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity.

The road to consummating the cause of the working class is arduous. However, when we advance, firmly grasping the guiding ideology, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity, we can achieve victory without fail, because the guiding ideology, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity contain not only the final goal of the revolutionary cause, but also the strategy and tactics with which to carry out to the end the revolutionary cause, as well as the principles and methods for carrying out the revolutionary cause.

The future of the revolution rests decisively with how we defend and embody the revolutionary tradition and how we firmly deepen cohesion and unity of the leader, the party, and the masses.

For our party to advance, firmly grasping the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity as the basis of the revolution is precisely the most revolutionary policy that makes it possible to vigorously advance the Korean revolution along the road pioneered by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

The cause of the working class can be brilliantly consummated only when it is advanced along the path indicated by the leader who first pioneered the road of the revolution. Therefore, to advance along the road pioneered by the leader, it is imperative to inherit and develop the revolutionary tradition and to safeguard and defend cohesion and unity, taking the guiding ideology created by the leader as a guideline.

When we advance, firmly grasping this precious revolutionary asset as the lifeline, the revolution and construction can be advanced victoriously. This is the truth of the revolution. The chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity that our party firmly grasps as the basis of the revolution are the greatest achievements and the noblest assets that the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has registered in the course of pioneering and leading the Korean revolution.

In the early days when he embarked on the revolution the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song created the immortal chuche idea. Since then, under the idea's banner he has led the Korean revolution to victory. Over the course of this sacred struggle the anti-Japanese revolutionary tradition was created, and the kindred cohesion and unity of the leader, the party, and the masses have been created. Therefore, the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity extensively reflect the rich achievements and noble experiences registered by the respected and beloved leader in the course of the revolution of many phases and in the course of leading the work in all fields—political, economic, cultural, and military.

The chuche idea shines as the guiding idea of the revolution for achieving independence of the popular masses; the anti-Japanese revolutionary tradition shines as the eternal footstone and immortal lifeline; and the

firm cohesion and unity of the leader, the party, and the masses have become the mighty driving force that pushes ahead with the revolution and construction. This proceeds precisely from the greatness of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the wisdom of his leadership.

The chuche idea, the revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has achieved over the course of his protracted revolutionary practice are a noble asset for the final victory of the Korean revolution. Reflected in this are the problems of how our revolution should advance and be consummated. Therefore, when we firmly grasp this we can brilliantly inherit and consummate the revolutionary cause.

Advancing, firmly grasping the chuche idea, the revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity, also constitutes a firm guarantee for vigorously advancing the socialist and communist cause by strengthening the subject of the revolution and by breaking through all difficulties and trials.

The revolution is the course of activity of the subject of the revolution. When a strong and powerful subject is provided, we can break through all sorts of difficulties and trials that arise along the road toward socialism and communism and, thus, achieve victory.

The more complicated and difficult the revolutionary task becomes and the more the vicious enemies' maneuvers for aggression are intensified, the more we should strengthen the subject of the revolution by all means. In the struggle against the enemies, in human and social remolding and remaking nature, nothing is almighty, but the subject of the revolution decides everything. When the subject of the revolution is firmly built, there is no fortress that cannot be occupied.

As taught by the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, the subject of the revolution is the unified body of the leader, the party, and the masses. This cannot be formed automatically. In other words, this can be formed and developed only when a basic condition under which the popular masses can firmly be ideologically and organizationally rallied has been provided.

The basic condition that makes it possible for the masses to be firmly rallied ideologically and organizationally is precisely the chuche idea, the revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity.

The chuche idea is the ideological foundation in forming and developing the subject of the revolution. In other words, by planting independent ideology and consciousness and a firm revolutionary outlook on the leader among the masses, the chuche idea makes it possible to firmly rally around the party and the leader with one ideological will.

The revolutionary tradition is the source that makes it possible for the subject of the revolution to continuously grow and to strengthen and develop from its historic roots.

Only when the revolutionary tradition is inherited and developed can consistency and inheritance be firmly guaranteed in the work of strengthening the main force of the revolution.

Cohesion and unity themselves are the main force of the revolution and a mode of existence. Only when the leader, the party, and the masses are united can the main force of the revolution be formed and give full play to invincible might.

If we advance while firmly adhering to the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity, we can enhance the main force of the revolution in an all-around way and solve whatever problems arise in socialist and communist construction.

Our party's theory and policy on marching while firmly adhering to the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity are the most correct guideline based on scientific analysis of our revolution's practical experience and the inevitability of the consummation of the revolutionary cause of the working class.

It is, after all, because they have defended, inherited, and developed the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity that our party and people have been able to effect a great advance in implementing the chuche revolutionary cause and have brilliantly resolved problems that concern the fate of the revolution in the past.

When we also firmly adhere to the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity in the future, as elucidated by our party, the Korean revolution will always be victorious and its future will be firmly guaranteed. This is the summation of the historical experience in the Korean revolution.

2. Our glorious party is the great guide that brilliantly inherits and consummates the chuche cause, firmly adhering to the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the party Central Committee, has noted: Our party is the general staff of the revolution and the organizer and encourager of all victories of our people.

Apart from the party, we cannot imagine the victory of our revolution and the freedom and happiness of our people.

The Korean revolution, which was initiated by the Down-with-Imperialism Union, has constantly deepened and developed onto new higher stages. During this period, our revolution has advanced far forward and the internal and external circumstances of the revolution have stupendously changed. Even today, nearly 60 years later, however, the Korean revolution is invariably powerful, marching only along the road pioneered by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-sung. This is because the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity have been brilliantly inherited and developed by our party.

The course over which our chuche revolutionary cause has been brilliantly inherited and has won victory is precisely embroidered with the shining leadership of our party, which has led the revolution, adhering to the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity as fundamental. Our glorious party put forward defending, inheriting, and developing the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity achieved by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-sung as a grave question that concerns the future fate of our revolution, and is most radiantly solving it.

Our party's greatness and basic characteristic lie in inheriting and consummating the chuche cause to the end while upholding the banner of the revolution under whatever circumstances. Above all, our party has raised the question of inheriting and developing the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity as the most important task in construction of the party and its activities and has thoroughly subordinated everything to it.

At what position the party of the working class places the guiding idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity achieved by the leader and how it conducts construction of the party and its activities are important questions to defend its revolutionary nature. When the party conducts its construction and activities while adhering to inheriting and developing the idea, tradition, and unity as the basic question concerning the fate of the party, it can fulfill its mission and duty as a weapon to realize the leader's idea.

Our party upholds defending, inheriting, and developing the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity as the principle of its activities and always embodies this in a thorough manner in its ideological and theoretical activities and practical struggle. Thus, it ensures that ideological indoctrination work seeks the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity and realizes its leadership toward the revolution and construction through their thorough embodiment. All ideological and theoretical activities and practical struggle of our party are waged based on the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity.

The historic work "Historical Experience in Building the WPK," the document "Several Problems Arising in Educating the Chuche Idea," and other works of the great leader's works and the party's documents elucidate the principled problems of conducting party work and activities while firmly adhering to the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity. They obviously clarify that the chuche idea is the firm and immovable guiding idea of our party, that revolutionary tradition is a precious asset for consummating the cause of the working class and the cause of building the party, and that leader-party-masses cohesion and unity are the lifeline of the party. This is an indication of the basic guideline of party construction and activities based on comprehensive analysis of the significance of the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity in inheriting and consummating the cause of building the party generation after generation.

Today our party solves all problems that arise in party work and activities based on the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity, and thoroughly subordinates everything to them. Amid the struggle to imbue the entire party with the chuche idea, party work and activities are being conducted as demanded by the chuche idea and the cohesion and unity of the party's ranks based on a single idea are being firmly consolidated.

In particular, the anti-Japanese guerrilla-type work method has been firmly established in overall party work and great change has been effected in developing our party. As a result, our party is growing to be a revolutionary party able to defend its guiding idea and revolutionary tradition forever and a militant party firmly united and cohesive based on a single idea.

In this way, we have been able to possess a powerful and mighty party loyal to the leader's cause. This is because of the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity and because of active struggle to correctly embody them in the party's work and activities.

Also, our party has thoroughly defended and safeguarded the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity. The pure inheritance of the revolutionary cause of the working class is firmly guaranteed by the resolute defense of and adherence to the guiding idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity achieved by the leader. If these revolutionary assets are resolutely defended and safeguarded, even though circumstances and conditions change, the revolutionary principle and class stance of the working class can be thoroughly defended and generations of the party can staunchly inherit it.

Today our party has set forth to defend and safeguard the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity as the most important question of defending the party and the revolution and has purely inherited

and developed them. By deepening the struggle to establish the party's unitary ideological system in the entire party and society, our party has ensured that only the chuche idea is firmly dominant.

Our party's leadership of newly developing and enriching the principles of the chuche idea through extraordinary wisdom and original ideological and theoretical activities is a precisely resolute defense and adherence to the chuche idea.

Along with this, our party has purely inherited and developed the anti-Japanese revolutionary tradition achieved by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. The achievements and noble experience our party has attained in its work, activities, the revolution, and construction are precisely the shining inheritance of the anti-Japanese revolutionary tradition and its development and enrichment.

Our party has also seen to it that the leader-party-masses unity of kinship the Korean communists obtained with blood is firmly defended.

Having early achieved absolute and unconditional cohesion and unity of the revolutionary ranks with the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the center is of great pride to the Korean communist movement. By leading this tradition of unity to be inherited, our party has ensured that the center of unity is solidly guaranteed and absolute loyalty to the party and the leader is fully displayed. Today our society is filled with the lofty revolutionary spirit of young communists, who fought with the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song at the center of unity and leadership, and all party members and workers are firmly united as a body of single fate around the party and the leader with revolutionary comradeship and obligation. This cannot be imagined apart from our party's leadership defending the purity of unity.

Our party's leadership, defending the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity, is thorough leadership never shaken by whatever circumstances and is consistent leadership that never changes however much time passes. It is characterized by a high sense of responsibility for consummating the revolutionary cause of the working class to the end, by a nature of revolutionary principle, and by firm ideological resoluteness. For this reason, the purity of the chuche idea, the revolutionary tradition, cohesion and unity is thoroughly guaranteed and it can never be undermined.

Because our party firmly defends and safeguards the chuche idea, the revolutionary tradition, cohesion and unity with its iron-like will, the chuche lineage is being purely inherited and the banner of the Korean revolution is resolutely defended.

Furthermore, our party is vigorously pushing ahead with socialist construction with the might of leader-party-masses unity, comprehensively embodying the chuche idea and revolutionary tradition in the revolution and construction.

The party of the working class is the general staff of the revolution, and correctly leading the revolution and construction is its most important duty. The party's defense of, adherence to, inheritance, and development of the guiding idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity are ultimately aimed at better implementing the revolution and construction. For the party of the working class to advance while adhering to the guiding idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity means that it leads the revolution thoroughly by reliance upon them.

Solving all problems that arise in the revolution and construction by embodying the chuche idea and revolutionary tradition and pushing ahead with difficult and complicated tasks by giving full play to the might of unity are a firm stance to which our party has consistently adhered.

Adopting the chuche idea as its firm leading guideline, our party independently maps out all lines and policies in conformity with the aspirations of the popular masses and the concrete realities of the country and gives unreserved play to the united strength and creative wisdom of the masses in implementing them.

In addition, our party leads our people to break through the difficulties they face by constantly effecting renovation and to advance with the invincible fighting spirit and mettle fully displayed in the forest of Mt Paektu under the slogan, "Production, study, life—all in manner of the anti-Japanese guerrillas." This leadership of our party enables our people to establish a firm chuche-oriented viewpoint and fighting spirit of trying to live with their own spirit and strength.

What they do and where they do it, our party member and worker think and act a demanded by the chuche idea and live and fight by following the invincible fighting spirit and mettle of the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters. As a result, the chuche idea and the anti-Japanese revolutionary tradition have been comprehensively embodied in all fields of social life and have been turned into proud realities.

Because leader-party-masses cohesion and unity have been firmly consolidated by our party, constant upsurges have been effected in our socialist construction. It is precisely because all the people have solidly armed themselves with the chuche idea and revolutionary tradition and have fought in firm unity around the party and the leader that they have launched a grand march of Chollima during the postwar period, the most arduous period of our revolution, smashing the U.S. imperialists'

jargon that we would not be rehabilitated even a century later, and that they have achieved great national prosperity in this land through the speed battle added to Chollima.

Difficult and grand tasks that arise in socialist construction are now being successfully discharged in our country through the struggle to embody the chuche idea and revolutionary tradition and strengthen unity.

The construction of countless monumental creations—including the Sohae lockgate—new miracles and exploits created in fulfilling the Third 7-Year plan and in today's march of grand construction are a powerful demonstration of the might of the cohesion and unity of our people who are armed with the chuche idea and revolutionary tradition and firmly united around the party and the leader.

Our party has seen to it that the chuche idea and revolutionary idea are thoroughly embodied in all fields of the revolution and construction and that socialist construction is pushed ahead with the might of unity. This has brought about an epochal turn in renewing the ideological and spiritual traits of the people and the features of our fatherland. Over this course, the cause of imbuing the entire society with the chuche idea has been powerfully accelerated and thus, great victory and success have been attained in the political, economic, cultural, and other fields.

In the process of its leadership with the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity, achieved by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song as a basis of the revolution, our party has attained immortal achievements that will be eternal before the times, the revolution, the fatherland, and the people, and has come to possess high dignity and authority as a tested leader of the revolution capable of consummating the chuche revolutionary cause to the end.

Today all the people absolutely trust and follow our party, which is leading the Korean revolution down the single road of victory while upholding the banner of the revolution. Only when they advance, following the party can they become ever-victorious. This is their faith and firm will they have cherished through a practical life over a long period of time.

Our party's leadership of advancing while firmly adhering to the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity helps our people vividly foresee the promising future of the Korean revolution. The chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity, achieved by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, are an ever-victorious and invincible weapon for pioneering the future of the revolution and constitute the essential contents of the inheritance of the chuche cause. When we advance, always adhering to them as a basis of the

revolution, we are able to defend national sovereignty and dignity forever and to achieve the eternal prosperity of the fatherland and the happiness of the ages to come.

The future of the Korean revolution and the fate of our fatherland and nation depend entirely on struggling for the ultimate victory of the chuche idea, on inheriting and developing the revolutionary tradition, and on consolidating cohesion and unity.

Our revolution has not yet ended, and the way that we should hew it out is still distant and rugged. There is no better way to weather the facing difficulties and hardships and advancing and consummating our revolutionary cause than by the road indicated by our party—defending, inheriting, and developing the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity. For this reason, there must not be even an inch of deviation in the work of defending and safeguarding the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity. As the revolution and construction develop, we should advance, more firmly adhering to them as our permanent life veins.

Upholding the leadership of our party is a decisive guarantee for brilliantly inheriting and developing the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity.

The struggle to consummate the chuche revolutionary cause is a sacred struggle to pioneer the resplendent future of the fatherland and realize the ideals and aspirations of mankind. Standing at the van of this struggle, our party is reliably leading the chuche cause to ultimate victory, adhering to the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity. As a result, a most glorious era in which the chuche idea and the anti-Japanese revolutionary tradition are being brought to full blossom in all fields of social life and leader-party-masses cohesion and unity are being firmly consolidated is unfolding in our fatherland.

Being born in this era and engaging in the revolution while upholding the great pioneer and leader [yongdoja] of the chuche cause are the greatest glory and happiness of our people.

With high national pride and confidence, we should uphold the leadership of the party and the leader, accept the lines and policies of the party as the loftiest demands of life, and unconditionally and thoroughly implement them.

The chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity, our party firmly adheres to as a basis of the revolution, firmly guarantee the future of the Korean revolution and powerfully encourage our party members and workers to wage a glorious struggle.

Accelerating the cause of imbuing the entire society with the chuche idea, adhering to the chuche idea, revolutionary tradition, and cohesion and unity, under the leadership of the party, is the most honorable and responsible work assigned to our people at present. There will always be only victory and glory on the road before our people who fight in firm unity around our party, which is leading the struggle to consummate the chuche cause to victory, while upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

SKNDF Message to Kim Chong-il on Birthday
SK191053 (Clandestine) Voice of National
Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT
17 Feb 88

[Text of congratulatory message dated 16 February of SKNDF Central Committee to Kim Chong-il on latter's birthday]

[Text] To Comrade Kim Chong-il, the sagacious leader, the inheritor of the chuche cause:

At this historic time, when the spring of struggle is about to begin in which the hot new wind of the anti-U.S., anti-dictatorship struggle for national salvation is about to blow under the bright sunshine of February, we significantly observe the 46th anniversary of the birth of Comrade Kim Chong-il, the sagacious leader of the nation. The SKNDF Central Committee respectfully sends greetings of utmost glory and warmest congratulations on the festive occasion of 16 February to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the guiding sun, with the consistent wishes of our vanguard fighters and the patriotic masses of all walks of life.

The birth of the dear leader comrade, who rose high above the magnificent peak of Paektu during the days of sacred anti-Japanese war for the liberation of the fatherland, was a magnificent declaration of history that developed the bright future of our nation and a grand festive event of the times that marked the advent of the outstanding leader for the completion of the chuche cause.

The sagacious leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, standing at the head of the cause of completion of the chuche idea upholding the noble will of the respected and beloved President Kim Il-song, has made brilliant immortal achievements in the history of struggle for national growth and prosperity and for the freedom and liberation of mankind with his outstanding ideological and theoretical activities and refined leadership.

The dear leader, the genius of ideology and theory, has further developed and enriched the immortal chuche idea, the supreme quintessence of human wisdom, with his profound theory and classic propositions and made it shine more resplendently as an eternal guiding ideology for mankind. The many great immortal classic works, including "On the Chuche Idea" and "On Some Problems of Education in the Chuche Idea," published by the

sagacious leader comrade are in the limelight of the times as immortal monumental achievements that have brilliantly decorated the course of development of Kimilsongism which comprehensively incorporates the new guiding ideology, guiding theory, and guiding method.

Another of the remarkable great achievements of the dear leader comrade is that the leader, the party, and the masses are united in a single mind with noble will and invariable comradeship and that all the brethren in the North loyally uphold the center of unity, the center of leadership generation to generation with everlasting political life.

Because the sagacious leader comrade has been victoriously leading the cause of modeling the entire society on the chuche idea, the difficult and complicated struggle to conquer nature, to reform society, and to remake man is being brought to concrete fruition, bringing forth legendary miracles and exploits. The general chemical industrial bases, grand energy bases, modern cities, and magnificent and resplendent great monumental creations being built on a large scale according to the blueprint of the grand Third 7-Year Plan are a great crystal of the grand idea, indomitable will, unmatched pluck, and abundant love of the dear leader Comrade, who is determined to build the best utopian society of mankind in the northern half of the fatherland ahead of others.

Socialist Korea, upholding the dear leader comrade as the great inheritor of the chuche cause who faithfully upholds the ideology and leadership of the respected and beloved president, today greets the great heyday of great growth and prosperity, and all fellow countrymen are able to look forward to a more brilliant and hopeful future. The sagacious leader comrade, the genius of mankind, resplendently illuminates the road to the liberation of mankind with the greatness and truthfulness of the chuche idea and leads the masses to the creation of a new independent and peaceful world. The songs of all mankind respectfully praising its shining sun and star echo endlessly to Pyongyang across the continents and oceans. Truly, the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il is an outstandingly great man the nation greets and mankind upholds and the resplendent guiding sun who leads the chuche cause to shining completion.

The endless feelings of reverence and adoration of our masses who have ardently worshipped as the savior of the nation the respected and beloved president who sounded the gunfire of the liberation of the nation on the peak of Mt Paektu warmly burn generation to generation because of the highest glory of upholding the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il as the lodestar who pioneers their destiny. Their single-minded loyalty, which cannot be curbed by anything, is a tonic for them in their cause of national salvation.

Because there was the dear Comrade leader—the symbol of hope—and the brilliant ray illuminated by the Comrade leader, our SKNDP could raise the anchor to sail and has grown and been strengthened as a patriotic vanguard trusted by the masses by overcoming various trials and difficulties and our masses could register proud exploits in the history of struggle for freedom and liberation by constantly rising in the struggle without knowing renunciation and frustration.

Because the banner of chuche vigorously flies at the forefront of the patriotic movement, our masses are turning themselves from the situation in which they were oppressed by outside forces into independent people who shape their destiny by their own strength and our masses are demonstrating indomitable courage to drive the ruling faction into terror by intensifying the spirit for independence, democracy, and reunification even under increasing repression and the yoke of subjugation.

Numerous organizations of ideological circles have been formed throughout the country and are disseminating and propagandizing genuine truth for struggle. A number of young patriotic fighters of the new generation have grown up and are expanding and strengthening the seed positions of the ranks of national salvation movement. This miraculous reality cannot be imagined without the peerless tractive power and limitless vitality of the chuche idea.

In the colonial land where various reactionary ideologies and false theories rampage, the immortal chuche idea, a great idea that esteems men and assumes the masses as the master, constitutes a clear ideological trend and is illuminating as a victorious ideology. Because of this, we take boundless pride in being chuche-oriented vanguard fighters.

The pro-U.S. flunkeyist nation sellers are wielding bloody bayonets while clamoring about punishment of the leftist procommunist forces. However, they cannot block the advance of the patriotic people from all walks of life who are vigorously marching forward under the manner of chuche by realizing the justness of their cause.

The U.S. imperialists, who extended the military rule by instigating the national traitors, are maneuvering to continuously maintain South Korea as their advance base against North Korea and the Soviet Union while babbling about the peaceful transfer of government and the successful hosting of the 1988 Olympics. However, their maneuvers are faced with the fierce resistance of our masses.

The mass resistance struggle to turn South Korea, a colonial land filled with pain and indignation, into an active volcano of fierce resistance struggle for democracy and liberation, is vigorously advancing to a point of explosion.

Upholding the anti-U.S. slogans for independence, we will more courageously wage the sacred national salvation struggle to eradicate the colonial fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists. We will energetically carry out the mass resistance struggle to put an end to military rule and to bankrupt [patan] the unilateral hosting of the 1988 Olympics.

We will win final victory without fail by fighting and leading our lives according to the (?demands) of chuché.

The SKNDF Central Committee, together with the ardent desire of all our vanguard fighters and the masses from all walks of life, respectfully wishes Comrade Kim Chong-il, the genius of ideology and leadership, the great leader of the century and the sun of guidance, good health and a long life. [Signed] SKNDF Central Committee [Dated] 16 February 1988, Seoul

South Korea

No Announces Sixth Republic Cabinet SK190100 Seoul YONHAP in English 0039 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—President-elect No Tae-u Friday picked Trade and Industry Minister Pa Ung-pae to serve as deputy prime minister and concurrently economic planning minister for his new government to be inaugurated on Feb. 25.

Seven cabinet members were retained in the lineup of cabinet members and presidential secretaries for the new administration announced Friday.

No selected O Cha-pok, a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to serve as defense minister, and Kim Yong-sik, president of the Korean Educational Development Institute, to serve as education minister.

Yun Kun-hwan, president of the National Agricultural Cooperatives Federation, was picked as agriculture, forestry and fisheries minister, An Pyong-hwa, president of the Korea Heavy Industries Co., as trade and industry minister, and Vice Energy and Resources Minister Yi Pong-so was promoted to serve as energy and resources minister.

Yi Pom-chun, a member of the National Assembly, was designated to serve as transportation minister, Kwon I-hyok, president of the Teachers' College, as health and social affairs minister, Chong Han-mo, president of the Culture and Arts Promotion Foundation, as culture and information minister, and Kim Yong-kap, senior presidential secretary for civil affairs, as government administration minister.

The president of Ulsan University, Yi Kwan, was named as science and technology minister, National Assembly member Choe Myong-hon was named as labor minister, Yi Hong-ku, a professor at Seoul National University

was named as national reunification minister and Cho Kyong-hui, president of the Federation of Artistic and Cultural Organizations, was selected as the second state minister for political affairs.

No retained Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su and Home Minister Yi Sang-hui, Finance Minister Sakong Il, Justice Minister Chong Hae-chang, Sports Minister Cho Sang-ho, Construction Minister Choe Tong-sop and Communications Minister O Myong.

No withheld designating a new first state minister for political affairs until parliamentary elections have been held. The elections are expected to be held by the end of April.

No also designated Hyon Hong-chu, a National Assembly member, to serve as head of the Office of Legislation, and Chon Sok-hong, governor of South Cholla Province to serve as head of the Patriots and Veterans Affairs Agency.

As for the presidential secretariat, No designated National Assembly member Choe Pyong-yol as the senior secretary for political affairs, Yi Yon-tack, administration coordinator of the Prime Minister's Office, as the senior secretary for administrative affairs, Pak Sung, dean of Chungang University's graduate school, as senior secretary for economic affairs and Yi Su-chong, vice president of the Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. (MBC), as the senior secretary for press affairs.

No postponed his selection of the senior secretaries for civil affairs, legal affairs, and inspection and reform affairs, to allow for further study on reorganizing the secretariat.

No had already named Yi Hyon-chae, a former president of Seoul National University, as prime minister-designate, and Hong Song-chol, a former presidential secretary, as chief presidential secretary. No is expected to announce the breakup of vice ministers shortly after he takes office on Feb. 25, a source said.

New Cabinet Members Profiled SK190333 Seoul YONHAP in English 0311 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—The following are the profiles of new cabinet members and appointees to the Presidential Secretariat:

Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Minister, Na Ung-pae: a professor-turned politician, Na has served as the chief executive officer of a private concern, as finance minister, as a university president, as a member of the National Assembly, and as trade and industry minister.

Born in 1934 in Seoul, Na graduated from Seoul National University and earned his master's degree in business administration at Stanford University and a doctoral degree at the University of California.

Na began his teaching career at his alma mater in 1965 as assistant professor, and then entered the private sector in 1973.

His political career began in 1981 when he became a member of the National Assembly for the ruling Democratic Justice Party.

A year later, he was appointed to serve as finance minister but had to yield his cabinet post four months later in the aftermath of one of the biggest financial scandals in Korean history.

He returned to academia as president of Ahu university until the ruling party named him its chief policy-maker in 1985.

Na was named trade and industry minister in 1986.

Defense Minister O Cha-pok: A former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, O retired as a four-star Army general on Dec. 30 last year ending his 36 years of active service.

Born in 1930 in Kaesong, now in North Korea, O was commissioned a second lieutenant during the Korean War in 1951.

He graduated from Myongji University in 1961 and earned a master's degree at Seoul National University in 1982 while in the service.

O was chairman of the Subcommittee on Education and Information Affairs of the Special Committee for National Security Measures, which had been headed by then Army General Chon Tu-hwan, in 1980.

O served as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1986 until 1987.

Government Administration Minister, Kim Yong-kap: a graduate of the Korea Military Academy in 1961, Kim entered the Korean Central Intelligence Agency in 1971 as a civil service employee.

Over the next 15 years he served at the intelligence agency as director of inspection and as director of planning and coordination until he was named the senior presidential secretary for civil affairs in 1986.

Born in 1936 in Milyang, South Kyongsang Province, Kim studied at the University of California at Berkeley for a year before he joined the Presidential Secretariat.

Education Minister, Kim Yong-sik: Known as an educational expert, Kim has had a career spanning both the teaching and administrative fields.

Born in 1930 in Cheju, Kim graduated from Seoul National University in 1957 and later earned a doctoral degree in education in 1968. He taught at Seoul National University from 1968 to 1982.

Kim entered government service in 1982 as a policy-maker of the Education Ministry and became president of the Korea Educational Development Institute the following year.

Labor Minister, Choe Myong-hon: A lawmaker specializing in economic affairs, Choe once chaired the National Assembly's Commerce and Industry Committee.

Born in 1929 in Shinuiju, now in North Korea, Choe graduated from the Korea Military Academy in 1950. He retired from active service as a colonel in 1963.

He served as president of the Korea Export Industrial Complex Management Corporation from 1971 to 1984, building a reputation as a specialist in labor disputes.

Elected to the National Assembly in 1981, Choe served as chairman of the subcommittee on economic affairs for the Korea-Japan Parliamentary Union.

Since the beginning of his second term at the National Assembly in 1985, Choe has served as the chief secretary to the National Assembly speaker.

Senior Presidential Secretary for Political Affairs, Choe Pyong-yol: A journalist-turned lawmaker, Choe is known to be one of the closest aides to President-elect No Tae-u.

Born in 1938 in Sanchong, South Kyongsang Province, Choe graduated from Seoul National University Law College in 1964.

He began his journalistic career in 1959 at the HANGUK ILBO, but moved to the CHOSUN ILBO in 1974 after military service. At the CHOSUN ILBO, Choe served as a reporter, political editor, city editor, and managing editor until he was recruited by the ruling Democratic Justice Party as a lawmaker in 1985.

Choe was an author of the so-called second No Tae-u declaration announced in the final stages of the presidential election campaign last year. The declaration called for reinvestigations, if necessary, into government corruption in the administration of outgoing president Chon Tu-hwan

Choe has recently been a member of the preparatory committee for the upcoming presidential inauguration.

Senior Presidential Secretary for Protocol Affairs, No Chang-hui: A career diplomat, No had the top score in the state examination for the foreign service in 1959.

Born in 1938 in Hapchon, South Kyongzang Province, No graduated from Seoul National University in 1960 and joined the Foreign Ministry. He has served as director of international agreements, minister at the Korean embassy in Washington D.C. and ambassador to Nigeria. In 1981, No accompanied the then State Minister for Political Affairs No Tac-u on a two-month tour of 15 European nations.

Minister of Culture and Information, Chong Han-mo: A literary figure, Chong has served as director of the Korean Culture and Arts Foundation since 1984. Known as a leading poet with published anthologies to his credit, Chong has taught at the Seoul National University (SNU) College of Liberal Arts since 1966. While teaching at the college, he also served as dean of the Korea Junior College of the Air and Correspondence in 1980. The 65-year-old poet served as chairman of the Korea Poets Association from 1978-1982.

Minister of Health and Social Affairs, Kwon I-hyok: A specialist in preventive medicine, Kwon, 65, has allegedly shown superb administrative management skills while serving as dean of the Seoul National University [SNU] College of Medicine in the early 1970s and as director of the SNU hospital in 1979-1980. During the period between 1980 and 1983 when he was president of SNU, the deputy SNU president was Prime Minister-designate Yi Hyon-chae. Since 1985, Kwon has served as president of the National Teachers' University.

Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Yun Kun-hwan: a 1954 graduate of the SNU College of Agriculture, Yun was awarded a doctoral degree in agriculture at SNU in 1968. He was appointed director of the Institute of Agriculture Management in 1969. He was named presidential secretary for economic affairs in 1970, as assistant agricultural minister for agricultural

production in 1974 and as director-general of the Agriculture Technology Institute in 1979. Yun, 66, is currently president of the National Agricultural Cooperatives Federation, a post he has held since 1982.

Minister of Energy and Resources, Yi Pong-so: A 1965 graduate of the Harvard University Graduate School with a doctoral degree in economics, Yi, 52, once worked for the Federal Reserve System of the United States and for the World Bank in the early 1960s. After returning to Seoul, he became an economics secretary for the prime minister in 1971. Yi became director of the Resources Policy Office of the Ministry of Energy and Resources in 1980 and presidential secretary for economics in 1983.

Minister of Science and Technology, Yi Kwan: A 1953 graduate of Seoul National University, Yi graduated from the Energy Department at the Graduate School of Liverpool University in Britain in 1965. He served as chief of the Atomic Reactor Energy Office of the Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI) in 1959. Yi, 58, an expert in the atomic energy field, joined the Ulsan Institute of Technology as its president in 1970 and has played a key role in boosting the school's status from that of a college to a university in 1985.

State Minister for Political Affairs, Cho Kyong-hui: Formerly a journalist, Cho is the first woman to become state minister for political affairs. Cho, 70, started her career as a journalist with the leading vernacular daily, CHOSUN ILBO, in 1939. She served as chairwoman of the Korean Writers Association from 1979 until 1984 when she became chairwoman of the Federation of Artistic and Cultural Organizations in Korea.

Senior Presidential Press Secretary, Yi Su-chong: A 1964 graduate of the SNU College of Liberal Arts, Yi joined the HANGUK ILBO, a vernacular daily, as a reporter. He served as the public information officer at the Korean embassies in London and The Hague in the early 1970s. After serving as presidential secretary for political affairs for four years, Yi became executive director of the Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. in 1984.

Senior Presidential Secretary for Economic Affairs, Pak Sung: Pak, 52, is an economics professor at Chungang University. A graduate of Seoul National University, Pak has worked at a variety of economic organizations, including the Bank of Korea from 1961-1967. He has been an economics professor at Chungang university since 1976.

Trade and Industry Minister, An Pyong-hwa: An, 57, is a career businessman having worked many years in the steel-making industry. A 1958 graduate of Seoul National University, An began his business career in 1961 with the Korea Tungsten Mining Co.

Before being named president of the Korea Heavy Industries Co. in 1986, An served as vice president of the Pohang Iron and Steel Co. (POSCO), as president of Dongjin Steel Co., and as president of POSCO.

National Unification Minister, Yi Hong-ku: Yi, 54, a graduate of Emory University in the United States, has taught political science at Emory University and Seoul National University over the past 25 years.

Yi earned a master's degree in political science at Yale University in the United States in 1961 and a doctoral degree in 1968 also at Yale.

He was elected chairman of the Korea Political Science Association in 1986.

Transportation Minister Yi Pom-chun: Yi, 59, is a soldier-turned politician. A 1949 graduate of the Korea Military Academy, Yi has served at a number of posts including corps commander and assistant minister of national defense.

Yi, a retired lieutenant general, joined the National Assembly in 1981 as a member of the ruling Democratic Justice Party. He was re-elected to the assembly in the 1985 elections.

Administrator of the Office of Legislation, Hyon Hong-chu: Hyon, 47, is one of the advisers who contributed to the election of No Tae-u last year.

A graduate of Seoul National University's Law School, Hyon served as a prosecutor before being appointed deputy chief of the Agency for National Security Planning in 1980.

In 1985, he was elected to the National Assembly as member of the ruling Democratic Justice Party. He has served as head of the policy coordination office at the DJP.

Administrator of the Patriots and Veterans Affairs Agency, Chon Sok-hong: Chon, 44, has had a long career as a civil servant. Before being appointed governor of South

Cholla Province, Chon served in major posts at the Home Affairs Ministry, including director-general of the Provincial Administration Bureau.

North Denies Sabotaging KAL Plane
OW170123 Tokyo KYODO in English 0102 GMT
17 Feb 88

[Text] New York, Feb. 16 KYODO—South Korea and Japan, in an emergency debate at the U.N. Security Council Tuesday, harshly accused North Korea of having sabotaged a South Korean (KAL) airliner last November causing the deaths of all 115 passengers and crew.

North Korea flatly denied the charges and alleged that South Korea had sabotaged the KAL plane.

In an opening debate, South Korean Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su said that North Korea arranged the incident in a bid to disrupt the 1988 Seoul Olympics, emphasizing that terrorism against civilian aircraft poses a serious threat to world peace and security.

Choe recalled a 1983 bombing in Rangoon which the Burmese Government concluded was committed by North Korean agents in an attempt to kill the South Korean president during his state visit to Burma.

Japanese ambassador to the U.N. Hideo Kagami also denounced North Korea, saying that the Japanese Government was convinced of North Korea's complicity in the bombing of the KAL plane.

Kagami said Japan had already imposed sanctions against North Korea and called on other countries to urge Pyongyang not to repeat such a crime.

In his denial, North Korean representative Pak Kil-yon alleged that South Korea sabotaged the KAL plane to encourage public sympathy and divert local attention at a time when the Seoul government was under fire from the opposition camp.

The debate at the U.N. Security Council was held at the request of South Korea and Japan.

Both North and South Korea station their observer missions in the United Nations, though neither is a full member.

The debate finished at 1:20 p.m. Tuesday (3:20 a.m. Wednesday Japan time) after nearly two and a half hours and was scheduled to be resumed at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday (12:30 a.m. Thursday Japan time).

UN Command Requests Return of Bodies
SK190749 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
0700 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Today the UN Command requested that all the bodies of UN troops that remain in North Korean areas be immediately returned.

Admiral William Pendley, senior member of the UN side to the MAC, sent a letter to the senior member of the communist side this morning requesting the immediate return of 2,233 bodies of UN troops that remain in North Korean areas.

Adm Pendley pointed out the fact that the North Korean side has not returned the bodies of troops of the UN side even though it has officially admitted that it has these bodies, which is clear evidence that the North Korean side is insincere in implementing the armistice agreement and is indifferent to the principle of humanitarianism.

It has been learned that since the Korean war, the whereabouts of more than 9,000 UN personnel, including 8,177 Americans, have been unknown, and the bodies of 2,233 UN personnel, including 389 American soldiers and 18 civilians, have been retained by the communist side.

However, those bodies were not returned during the period of the exchange of bodies in 1953 and 1954.

YONHAP Examines Trade Dispute With U.S.
SK190930 Seoul YONHAP in English
0844 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea is faced with increasing pressure from the United States to lower the prices of imported U.S. cigarettes and liberalize the domestic beef market.

The U.S. Trade Representative's decision to invoke Section 301 of the U.S. Trade Act and begin a probe into the Korean cigarette market is perceived as bullying by Koreans in general, who feel that the U.S. Government is making unreasonable demands on Korea. The U.S. method being employed was likened by some to cowboys armed with sophisticated guns (Section 301) advancing to the West, forcing the timid Indians (Koreans) to retreat as they intruded upon the latters' territory.

With the decision by the U.S. Trade Representative, which followed the abortive six-day bilateral cigarette negotiations in Washington, the Korean Government is left with almost no choice but to bear the brunt of harsh U.S. retaliatory actions or accept almost all of the U.S. demands. accepting the demands would leave the domestic market virtually open to imported foreign cigarettes.

During the Feb. 10-15 Washington talks, the Korean side offered major concessions to the United States, agreeing to allow U.S. tobacco exporters to set up subsidiaries in Korea to import and distribute their products.

The Korean side also agreed not to impose import duties or other local taxes on foreign cigarettes, and to implement a uniform tobacco excise tax beginning next year that would apply equally to both foreign and Korean brands. Under the new system, a tax of 360 won would be levied on cigarettes and the retail price of foreign brands would drop to about 720 won per pack from the present 1,300 won, an amount only 100 won higher than that of the best-quality Korean brand.

The U.S. Administration, despite the sweeping concessions by the Korean government, made further demands that are hardly acceptable to the Korean side. as a result, the negotiations broke off.

While agreeing with the Korean proposal to apply the 360-won uniform tobacco tax beginning in 1989, the U.S. government demanded that Korea temporarily lower its financial subsidies on cigarette sales to 300 won beginning March 15 until the end of this year, enabling U.S. cigarettes to sell at around 650 won per pack.

Some observers say it is absurd for South Korea to temporarily lower the retail prices of foreign cigarettes and then increase them again.

The U.S. side also demanded that the Korean government impose the same uniform tobacco excise tax on low-quality Korean brands, priced at below 200 won, intended for lower income brackets. it seems unlikely that the u.s. government understands the korean government's plan to set a differential tax rate for low-priced domestic brands.

It is beyond belief that the U.S. side demanded that it be allowed to run cigarette advertisements in Korean daily newspapers in an effort to encourage more Koreans to consume products that have been proven globally to be dangerous to health.

The U.S. demand that Korea authorize American cigarette makers to set their own retail prices and retailers' margins is tantamount to a call for the complete independence of foreign cigarettes from Korean government control. under Korea's monopoly system, the Korea Monopoly Corp. has the exclusive right to produce and sell cigarettes at predetermined prices. The corporation is the sole importer of foreign cigarettes.

The Korean side offered to allow U.S. cigarette makers to set a margin of up to 10 percent on retail prices, which is much higher than the 6 percent for Korean products, but Washington declined the offer to demand higher margins.

It is clear to see that the U.S. demand to temporarily lower its cigarette prices through the end of this year, despite financial losses, is intended to expand the base of U.S. cigarette consumption in the Korean market and set a target of bigger long-range profits with increased prices next year, once Korean smokers become accustomed to the taste of foreign cigarettes available at cheap prices.

The retail prices of U.S. cigarettes in Korea, if lowered to the 700-won level, are far below those in such countries as Britain (1,800 won), West Germany (1,640 won), Italy (1,525 won), Japan (1,320 won) and France (1,094 won). The U.S. cigarettes are sold at 980 won per pack in their domestic market when converted into the Korean currency.

Although the United States is arguing that U.S. cigarettes in Japan and Taiwan are rated at prices similar to those of the best-quality local brands of the two countries, a simple comparison of the retail prices of U.S. cigarettes in South Korea, Japan and Taiwan fails to back up the U.S. argument because Korea's monopoly system is different from the systems of Japan and Taiwan.

Even though the U.S. Trade Representative has one year to investigate the Korean market and determine whether the Korean government engages in unfair trade practices in connection with cigarette imports, government officials predict an early decision considering the strong U.S. position shown in the Washington talks.

Under U.S. law, the trade representative recommends that the U.S. President take retaliatory action against a trading partner after an investigation lasting up to one year. The president has seven days to decide whether to take such an action.

Meanwhile, the trade representative's announcement that the American Meat Institute, a trade group, had filed a complaint with South Korea's ban on U.S. beef claiming that it is in violation of Section 301 is seen as a move aimed at taking a dominant position during the Feb. 19-20 bilateral beef talks in Geneva by arousing alleged international opinion against South Korea.

The United States, dissatisfied with a market-opening program offered by Korea late last month, has appealed to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) for the Geneva talks.

The intention of the two-pronged U.S. approach toward opening the Korean beef market, by using section 301 and the GATT appeal, appears to be one of pressuring South Korea to grant more concessions to U.S. beef imports.

The U.S. Trade Representative has 45 days to act on the petition filed by the American Meat Institute.

Even if the U.S. side does raise the beef issue at the GATT, such a move could result in the total liberalization of the Korean beef market and opening it to other countries like Australia and New Zealand with competitive edge over the United States in general beefs, which would mean less benefits for U.S. exporters.

In any case, the U.S. and Korean Governments need to share the view that the adverse effects of liberalizing Korea's beef market will damage Korean farmers. In addition, such a view must also include the recognition that market liberalization is deeply related to the socio-political aspects in a country undergoing major political changes toward democratization.

Trade Group Compares U.S. Pressure on Taiwan
SK190126 Seoul YONHAP in English
0118 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—Taiwan has fewer trade disputes with the United States than South Korea although Taiwan's trade surplus with the United States is much larger than that of South Korea, the Korea Foreign Trade Association reported Friday.

In the last two decades—between 1968 and 1987—Taiwan accumulated a trade surplus of 76.4 billion U.S. dollars with the United States, while South Korea registered a surplus of only 26.5 billion dollars in the same period.

Taiwan's share of U.S. import markets also surpassed that of South Korea in 1987, with Taiwan accounting for 6.2 percent of the total U.S. imports compared with South Korea's 4.2 percent.

On the other hand, Taiwan is suffering less trade pressure from the United States as indicated by the number of lawsuits filed against Korean products. A total of 59 lawsuits were filed against Korean goods as of the end of last year, while 30 lawsuits were filed against Taiwanese goods.

Of the 59 lawsuits filed by U.S. industry against Korean goods, 21 were filed in the last two years while only seven suits were filed against Taiwanese products in 1986 and 1987, showing that the U.S. trade pressure against South Korea has intensified in recent years.

In addition, the United States is demanding that Korea open its construction and engineering markets and accounting and legal sectors while Taiwan is not faced with the same demands, the association said.

RDP, PPD Blame Each Other for Failed Unity
SK172359 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
18 Feb 88 p 2

[Text] The two opposition parties yesterday declared that the week-long bipartisan negotiations for a merger have collapsed.

In separate press meetings, top negotiators of the Reunification Democratic Party and the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] blamed each other for the collapse of the talks.

RDP adviser Kim Chae-kwang said that though the RDP made its utmost efforts for opposition reunification, the PPD caused the talks to fail by boycotting an agreed-upon joint parley of lawmakers of the two parties.

"For all this, we have opened our door to all the (opposition) politicians and dissidents to give birth to a fresh opposition party and thus win the coming parliamentary election," Rep. Kim said.

He added the RDP is contacting "not a few" figures for their joining the 54-seat party.

Meanwhile, the Rev. Mun Tong-hwan, the PPD's top negotiator, said the bipartisan merger talks have virtually collapsed.

He said, however, the PPD is willing to cooperate with the RDP when there are ways to defeat the ruling party in the general elections expected in late March.

The Rev. Mun, who joined the PPD last month, said the party has not changed its stance of seeking single-member parliamentary election format and a unified opposition.

He proposed to the RDP that the two parties not denounce each other during the election campaign.

PPD president Kim Tae-chung told reporters that the RDP, taking advantage of the joint parley of lawmakers, tried to attack the PPD and ostracize him, rather than discuss ways for a merger.

Following Kim Yong-sam's resignation as RDP president last Monday, the two parties kicked off negotiations for reunification.

But the talks collapsed Tuesday as the PPD boycotted a joint meeting of the two parties' lawmakers, calling for the RDP to guarantee a small constituency system.

In an unrelated matter, the RDP and the PPD have rejected a request by President-elect No Tae-u to recommend some opposition figures for a cabinet post.

RDP Increases Efforts To Lure Dissidents
SK180010 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
18 Feb 88 p 2

[Text] The opposition Reunification Democratic Party has begun to step up negotiations to allow the individual entry of senior members of the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] independents and other dissident figures following its failure to achieve a merger with its opposition rivals.

Rep. Kim Chae-kwang, standing RDP advisor and chief negotiator for a merger with the PPD, officially announced the suspension of efforts for the party-to-party merger with the PPD led by Kim Tae-chung, in a press conference yesterday.

"Our party will open the door for all democratic forces who have joined in the struggle against the military dictatorship so that a reformed opposition party may be reborn," said Rep. Kim.

The RDP advisor then called upon the PPD members and other independents "to assemble under the banner of the RDP for opposition victory in the forthcoming parliamentary elections."

"A considerable number of dissident figures and independents have expressed their intention to join our party," Rep. Kim claimed.

30 Students Sought in Wall Poster Case
SK180028 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
18 Feb 88 p 3

[Text] Police are tracking down 30 students of Songgyungwan, Kyongbuk National and other universities who are believed to have put up wallposters echoing North Korean claims that the KAL plane bombing was perpetrated by the South Korean authorities.

According to police, four Songgyungwan University students were said to have planned the wallpaper production at a restaurant in Myeongnyun-dong, central Seoul, on Jan. 15. Police are seeking them.

Other wallposter cases the police are investigating have taken place at Seoul National, Sogang, Myongji and Yonsei universities.

Burma

U Sein Lwin's Union Day Seminar Address
BK140924 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1345 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Opening address at the 41st Union Day Seminar on 11 February by U Sein Lwin, State Council secretary and presiding chairman of the seminar, at Saya San Hall in KyaiKKasan Grounds, Rangoon—recorded]

[Excerpts] Esteemed delegates of the indigenous people of the Union and guests: On behalf of the State Council and the central organs of state power, I would first like to warmly welcome the delegates of the indigenous people from the states and divisions to the 41st Union Day Seminar. [passage omitted]

The first point I would like to discuss at today's Union Day Seminar is consolidation and promotion of the essence of socialist democracy through the strength of the unity of the indigenous people. The historical events of Burma have firmly proved that the power of national unity enabled us to overcome difficulties and obstacles during our struggle for the country's independence. [passage omitted]

We have laid down a socialist economic system and established socialist democratic institutions in our country and have removed the evil economic systems that allowed exploitation of man by man and racial exploitation. [passage omitted]

I would like to urge the organizations responsible and the indigenous working people concerned to consolidate and promote the essence of socialist democracy through the strength of national unity to perpetuate the state and accelerate the momentum of our efforts for construction of a just and prosperous society.

Indigenous delegates, we are implementing plans to bring about economic development in the socialist economic state which has been built through the strength of national unity. The state can only achieve economic progress with the cooperation and participation of the people. [passage omitted]

As our country is basically an agricultural country, we must strive to increase agricultural production. We need to increase agricultural production to reach domestic self-sufficiency, to supply needed raw materials and crops for industries, and to expand exports.

In the agricultural sector, the net sown area is 21 million acres while the multicropping area is more than 4 million. Hence, the total cultivated area is more than 25 million acres. Of the total acreage under cultivation, 13 percent can be irrigated. Furthermore, there are over 4 million acres of fallow land and 21 million acres of virgin land with potential for cultivation. [passage omitted]

The state at present manages and maintains a total of 279 dams and irrigation systems and has 7 irrigation projects under construction. We have the manpower, farm implements, and draught cattle as well as a considerable amount of other farming aids including fertilizers to carry out agricultural production. As we already have the major requirements of the agricultural sector—land, manpower, and investments—we are in a position to step up crop production.

The fish and meat sector are also in a position to increase production to meet the nutrition needs of the people and to improve export. [passage omitted]

In our country, we are producing crude oil and natural gas and are systematically exploring inland oil and natural gas and offshore oil. As we have explored and discovered oil wells and have the technical experts, we are in a position to step up crude oil production once the required investment is obtained.

In the industrial sector, the state, cooperative, and private enterprises are producing goods to meet the people's need for food, clothes, and shelter while most of the raw materials needed for domestic industries are being produced locally. However, despite the ability to cultivate crops, production is short of target at present for various reasons. We are in a position to meet the people's need for food, clothes and shelter once we can obtain locally produced raw materials, fuel, imported raw materials, and spare parts for the machines which are necessary to operate factories at full capacity.

We are stepping up our capacity to produce more electricity each year to meet the power demands of the production and services sectors. [passage omitted]

The road and communications sectors are being expanded to promote the state's social, economic, and regional development. At present, we have a total of over 14,000 miles of highways, which include 2,400 miles of the existing union highway system and 12,000 additional miles of highway we have constructed. The expansion of roads and communication facilitates commerce among the regions and promotes economic development.

We can say that the state's production sector has the potential to perform in accordance with the economic strategy of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] to substantially increase production. [passage omitted]

Presently, we are implementing the plan for the second year of the fifth 4-year economic plan. As these plans are interrelated to the world economy, they are affected by repercussions from the world economic crisis to a certain extent. [passage omitted]

Prices of basic commodities, agricultural crops, and minerals have been declining on the world market. The prices of rice, broken rice, maize, beans and pulses, and tin and tungsten ores exported by Burma have also been

declining. At such a time of declining export commodity prices, efforts were made to increase the amount of exports. Despite this, however, we were unable to meet the export earnings target.

Although our export prices declined, the prices of goods imported from major industrialized countries continued to rise, causing us to also face the problem of rising import prices. The price of capital goods Burma has to import has increased by two- to four-fold. Rising import prices and declining export earnings result in our international balance of payments problem which in turn affects the country's foreign exchange holdings. Because of the foreign exchange problem, we have had to limit our import of essential raw materials and spare parts for our projects and factories. [passage omitted]

Shortages of imported raw materials as well as local raw materials, fuel, and electricity in some factories caused them to be unable to operate at full capacity. As we were unable to produce goods according to target, we could not fully meet the demand of the people.

Due to lack of foreign exchange, we were unable to acquire equipment necessary to develop new oil in our endeavor to increase crude oil production to a normal level. As a result there was a shortage of fuel which adversely affected the production and transportation sectors.

High transportation costs caused by the fuel shortage contribute to high prices for some commodities although a sufficient amount of these commodities is produced domestically. We have made plans to obtain the necessary investment to increase crude oil production. [passage omitted]

We are striving to consolidate and promote the essence of socialist democracy through the strength of national unity and to bring about the economic development of the state in the interest of the people. While we are earnestly carrying out these constructive tasks, we can see in some fields of work and in some regions the deeds of some overt and covert destructive elements who do not desire the progress and prosperity of the state and oppose the people's welfare. [passage omitted]

These destructive and reactionary elements who cannot rid themselves of their old and evil habits from past eras are writing and spreading rumors and fabricating information to confuse the people. They also engage in such destructive acts as bribery and misappropriation and waste and loss of funds from the state and cooperative sectors.

Armed insurgents are hiding and operating in the remote border areas and are terrorizing and carrying out atrocities against the local people. They forcefully recruit under-aged local youths for their insurgency activities and collect taxes through various means. They also resort to banditry and collection of tolls from the smuggling

gates and engage in blackmarketeering of the country's precious gems and forest products. They also produce and trade in opium and narcotic drugs and fabricate and spread false information to smear the country's image. The indigenous delegates can see for themselves how they engage in these vices. [passage omitted]

The Armed Forces, which were born of the people and which have been serving the people's interests, are striving to crush the insurgents in a spirit of sacrifice. Victory is being achieved in crushing the insurgents thanks to the outstanding combat ability of the Armed Forces and the active participation and cooperation of the people.

Recently the Armed Forces effectively launched offensives in the Northern, Northeastern, and Southeast Military Commands and successfully smashed the headquarters of the insurgents. The local people willingly gave their physical, financial, material and moral support during these military operations, and the insurgents are now on the run, fleeing in disarray. [passage omitted]

Esteemed delegates and guests, the points I have discussed today are based on the three political objectives of the 41st Union Day. These objectives are: to make efforts to consolidate and promote the essence of socialist democracy through the strength of national unity; for the indigenous people to strive with might and main to be about the economic development of the state; and for the indigenous people to constantly cooperate with the Armed Forces to completely annihilate the destructive elements. [passage omitted]

Ethnic Groups Carry Out Union Day Attacks
*BK180249 Hong Kong AFP in English 1748 GMT
17 Feb 88*

[Excerpt] Rangoon, Feb 17 (AFP)-A time-bomb blast has killed 12 people and injured over 100 at a state high school in eastern Kachin State, press reports said here Wednesday.

Authorities blamed the Kachin Independence Army (KIA), believed to number 5,000 to 6,000 fighters, for the attack Friday at the Momauk Township state high school in Burma's Kachin State, 950 kilometres north of here.

The delayed reports said the explosion killed 12 people, including five students who died instantly, and wounded 133, including 11 boys and 66 girls.

They said the victims were among an audience watching a "Padetha dance" performed by students to celebrate Burma's 41st Union Day anniversary, and that the bomb was planted under the chairs some 20 feet from the stage.

"Union Day" commemorates a pledge made in 1947 by four ethnic minorities and the Burman majority to prove they were ready to co-exist peacefully together.

The newspaper reports also mentioned a similar attempt to disrupt Union Day celebrations at Kentung, in the eastern Shan State, where 17 people were injured in a bomb blast.

The blame was laid on insurgents but authorities did not specify which group was responsible.

The main celebrations marking Burma's Union Day were held in the capital amid widespread rumours of possible attempts by ethnic insurgents to disrupt the festivities.

More than 100,000 people attended a mass rally in Rangoon under tight security. The rally went off without a hitch. [passage omitted]

Kachin Insurgents Set Fire to Kutkai Villages
BK181408 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 18 Feb 88

[Text] At about 2000 on 11 February, a Kachin insurgent unit belonging to the KIA [Kachin Independence Army] entered (Ho-hpyet) village tract in Kutkai Township and burned down (Kyaik Kawng), La San, (Man Kon), (Man Wi), and (Hku Wa) villages. As a result, 134 houses were destroyed by fire.

On 15 February, Kutkai Township party and people's council functionaries, the army, and responsible officials distributed (7804 baskets) of rice to the fire victims. The following day on 16 February, the victims were given rice sacks, salt, clothing, utensils, food, construction materials, and gifts from the people worth a total of 56,700 kyat.

Two Villagers Killed in Karen Ambush
BK181424 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 18 Feb 88

[Text] A mass rally to denounce the Karen insurgent KNU [Karen National Union] was held at (Kawthabyu) village in Pa-an Township at 0845 on 14 February following an ambush by a Karen insurgent unit of a party out to collect the remains of late U Pha Paia from (Kawthabyu) village. The ambush, which took place on 26 January, resulted in the deaths of two villagers and the wounding of two others.

The rally was attended by U Nai Ohn Maung, secretary of Pa-an Township party unit, and unit members; U Saw No Shein, secretary of Pa-an Township People's Council, and council members; the commander and soldiers from the 76th Infantry Regiment; and over 500 people from (Nawhela), (Nay-Min-Aung), (Ye-aye), (Kawthabyu), (Tagonbon), Lelan, (Butkyi), (Hti-Me-Gaw), (Chi-Po-Nay), (Law Sare), Aleywa, Myaing, and Letpadan villages.

At the rally, people representing the villages exposed the murderous and subversive activities of the KNU insurgents and voiced opposition against the insurgents.

The rally ended at 0930.

Cambodia

UN Special Envoy Visits 16-18 February
BK190929 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0404 GMT
19 Feb 88

[Text] Phnom Penh, 19 Feb (SPK)—Shah A.M.S. Kibria, special envoy of the UN secretary general, paid an official visit to Cambodia from 16 to 18 February.

This was his second visit to Cambodia; the first took place from 19 to 24 March, 1987.

During his stay, he met with Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, and had talks with other Cambodian leaders.

Shah A.M.S. Kibria, also executive secretary of the Socioeconomic Committee for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in charge of coordinating humanitarian aid programs for Cambodia, came here to learn about the real situation in Cambodia, especially about last year's drought-damaged agricultural production. He pledged to do his best to provide Cambodia with a new allotment of food aid.

255 'Bandits' Said 'Put Out of Action'
BK190617 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1200 GMT 18 Feb 88

[From the "Weekly Roundup of Salient Events" feature]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] During the past week, our KPRAF put out of action 255 bandits of all stripes, including 103 killed, 110 captured, and 42 surrendered voluntarily; and seized 111 assorted weapons and a quantity of war materiel. [passage omitted]

Sihanouk Rejoins Resistance Coalition
BK190123 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
19 Feb 88 p 1

[“Exclusive” by Jacques Bekaert in Beijing]

[Text] Prince Norodom Sihanouk will return as president of the Cambodian resistance soon but remain “on leave” to give him more leeway, a source said yesterday.

Sihanouk was prepared to meet Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen for a third time towards the end of the year in France if he came with substantive proposals, said the Cambodian source.

The Khmer leader's move came just weeks after he returned from France to Beijing and announced his resignation from the resistance coalition.

According to the source, Sihanouk was extremely disappointed at the lack of response from Hanoi. "Sihanouk took a great political risk but got very little from Vietnam," he said.

Vietnamese officials had viewed Sihanouk's resignation as a positive move but ruled out direct contact with a Hanoi figure until agreement is reached among the various Khmer factions.

So far, Son Sann of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and the Khmer Rouge have refused to join talks between Sihanouk and Hun Sen.

"Sihanouk is interested in efficiency," the source said. "He believes he can now accomplish more as the resistance president. But his recent diplomatic initiatives have demonstrated that Hanoi is not ready yet for any substantial compromise."

On February 3, Sihanouk sent a telegram to Hun Sen, cancelling the third round of talks planned for April in Pyongyang. But the source said: "If Hun Sen lets us know, via a third party, that he is willing to bring substantial propositions regarding a realistic timetable for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, and the conditions for free general elections under international supervision and not within the framework of the PRK", the prince is prepared to meet him a third time.

If Hun Sen agrees, the prince is prepared to meet him in France but not before November or December.

The source rejected rumours from Paris that Sihanouk had struck a secret deal with Hun Sen to return to Cambodia as head of state at a monthly salary of \$50,000.

In a statement released yesterday, Sihanouk dismissed the rumours as "extreme fantasy" and insisted he had never received money from "Hun Sen or his foreign Vietnamese or Soviet bosses" and that he had no plan to travel to Phnom Penh.

The prince said that in May and June he will visit ASEAN countries and liberated zones of Cambodia.

Informs Envoy in Beijing
PM181546 Paris *LE MONDE* in French
18 Feb 88 p 4

[Francis Deron dispatch: "Prince Sihanouk Maintains Pressure on Hanoi By Resuming Leadership of Resistance"]

[Text] Beijing—this time the curtain has virtually fallen on the first act of Prince Sihanouk's attempt to break the Cambodian deadlock. Indeed, he has just announced

that he has resumed his activities within the anti-Vietnamese coalition, which unites him to the Khmer Rouge and Son Sann, the nationalist, because he has received no sign from Hanoi that Vietnam is prepared to negotiate.

Prince Sihanouk announced this decision to about a dozen Western and Third World ambassadors with whom he had a lengthy meeting over luncheon in Beijing on Tuesday, 16 February. He refrained from publicly announcing his new about-face, 2 weeks after his "irrevocable" decision to resign from the coalition, to avoid the label of the "changing prince," which he accuses the press of giving him. But the essence of his stance is that the former monarch is stepping up his pressure on Hanoi by resuming his position as head of state in the Cambodian resistance. Unless anything unexpected happens, he will go to Thailand and to the border with Cambodia in May and June, particularly for the ritual ceremony in which he receives the credentials of new ambassadors from countries which recognize his tripartite government.

This makes it easier to understand the satisfaction shown by Khieu Samphan, official Khmer Rouge leader, in Bangkok last week on his return from Beijing, when he said he had every reason to be pleased with his talks with Prince Sihanouk. Assuming that Beijing refrained from exerting direct pressure on Sihanouk—which is not certain—the message that the Chinese entrusted to Khieu Samphan was sufficiently explicit for the former monarch to be unable to refuse.

Neither Petain Nor Laval [subhead]

On Tuesday, Sihanouk seemed very bitter about the lack of any positive reaction from the Vietnamese since he "took leave" from the coalition in May 1987, and about the role that the latter still apparently want him to play in a pro-Vietnamese "people's republic."

In his usual colorful language, Sihanouk made remarks to the ambassadors he received which clearly showed that he would still refuse to back a Vietnamese puppet regime. He is cited as saying: "I am willing to be a little De Gaulle, but not a little Petain.... And certainly not a Laval."

Has the door finally been closed to dialogue with Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen? It is possible that Sihanouk's surprise resignation on 31 January was too spectacular to allow the Vietnamese, who still suspect a Chinese trap, to respond to this overture at the time. However, Hanoi must clearly make specific gestures if the former monarch is to go back on his rejection of another meeting with Hun Sen, in November or December for instance, when Prince Sihanouk will be in France again.

In the immediate future, the vagueness surrounding his precise function simply enables him to try to make the Vietnamese understand that, if they continue to turn a deaf ear to his overtures, they will miss a unique opportunity to break their diplomatic isolation.

Briefs

Twinned Province Cooperation

Phnom Penh SPK February 18—Kampot Province, some 150 km southeast of Phnom Penh, has, with assistance from its twinned Vietnamese province of Kien Giang, trained dozens of agricultural cadres and opened several refresher courses on new farming techniques for Kampuchean farmers. In addition, Kien Giang has sent five agriculturists to Kampot and supplied the latter with 12 tractor ploughshares, seven pumping machines and a number of farm tools, rice seeds, green bean seeds and insecticides. Kien Giang has also helped Kampot build a saw-mill which is expected to put into operation at the end of this month. The two provinces have also arranged the exchange of working visits for provincial cadres to exchange experience in the agricultural and other fields. [Text] *[Phnom Penh SPK in English 1114 GMT 18 Feb 88 BK]*

More Ralliers in Kompong Speu

Phnom Penh SPK February 18—In January this year, 20 peoples led astray by enemy propaganda broke with the enemy ranks and reported themselves to the revolutionary authorities in Kompong Speu Province, 50 km west of Phnom Penh, bringing along 13 assorted guns and a quantity of ammunition. Early this month, six others came over to the nation's fold in the province, bringing along two B-40 anti-tank rocket launchers and four fire arms. The returnees were helped to rejoin their families and given necessities to embark on a new life. [Text] *[Phnom Penh SPK in English 1110 GMT 18 Feb 88 BK]*

Indonesia

Sutrisno Says Military To Stay in Politics

BK191025 Hong Kong AFP in English 0750 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Jakarta, Feb. 19 (AFP)—The Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI) plans to stay in politics but it will not drag the nation into militarism, future ABRI Commander General Tri Sutrisno has said.

Gen. Sutrisno, who is due to be officially appointed commander-in-chief by President Suharto on February 27, told a parliamentary hearing Thursday that the military's dual role as a defense and a socio-political force "will always remain a character of the Armed Forces."

"ABRI's presence in the context of the country's struggle will foster the growth of all aspects of national development which will certainly focus in ensuring the growth of democracy.

"(But) for sure it will not be dragged into what is known as militarism," the general said, adding that the military remained committed to defending the existence of unitary state of the archipelagic nation. Gen. Sutrisno added. [paragraph as received]

Gen. Sutrisno, 52, is the first Indonesian Armed Forces commander to have been drawn from the so-called "younger generation" of officers who did not take part in the war of independence against the Dutch.

A Moslem, he rose from being Suharto's aide de camp in the mid-1970s to Army chief two years ago, and is widely seen as a possible candidate for the presidency in the 1990's.

The outgoing military commander General Benni Murdani, a Catholic, said at the hearing that anyone in charge of the military would put the interests of the nation "not of an individual, of a certain group, or of his religion" first and foremost.

The military has had a strong representation in the government and the legislative body since Mr. Suharto, a retired general, took power in 1967.

The Armed Forces' wide-ranging role was further strengthened in 1982 when the Lower House endorsed the "dual-function" concept—as a stabilizing and dynamizing force, with the latter interpreted as justifying the military's involvement in politics.

Gen. Murdani, 55, said he was confident that the military would remain as firm and tough under the new leadership although the methods could differ.

"Don't expect ABRI to open all doors for anyone to do what he likes. For us the most important thing is national stability, peace and the prosperity of 170 million or so Indonesian people," he said.

The handover from Murdani to Sutrisno completes the so-called regeneration process within the military with all senior command positions now held by younger generation officers.

Gen. Murdani, whose record in the past five years include carrying out a massive reorganisation and streamlining of the Armed Forces, also said that many tasks were left unfinished.

"The period of duty given to an officer is never enough," he said, adding that his successor would complete these tasks."

Generals Warn Against Assembly Disturbances
BK181255 Hong Kong AFP in English 1102 GMT
18 Feb 88

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 18 (AFP)—Indonesia's intelligence chief warned Thursday that social problems could disrupt security during the National Assembly which meets next month to elect the country's president.

General Yoga Sugomo, chief of the State Intelligence Coordinating Board, said social problems related to ethnic, religious, racial and sectarian issues could emerge in the days approaching the March 1-11 gathering of the People's Deliberative Assembly (MPR).

He did not elaborate but told a parliamentary hearing that the political situation in Indonesia is stable enough for the Assembly to proceed.

The general's comments came one day after Armed Forces Commander General Benni Murdani warned that the military would not hesitate to crack down on disturbances during the assembly.

Gen. Murdani, who is due to step down as military chief February 27, called on the Armed Forces to exert "maximal preventive measures" to avoid security troubles during the period.

But he warned at a police ceremony in Surabaya, Java, that military units should "not be lured to become emotional and engage in over repressive actions," the leading daily KOMPAS said.

The MPR, dominated by the ruling Golkar Party and military appointees, meets every five years to elect the president and vice president.

President Suharto, 66, who is currently serving his fourth consecutive five-year term, is the sole presidential candidate so far and is likely to be reappointed to rule the country for another five years.

Intelligence Chief on Relations With PRC
BK191423 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1333 GMT
19 Feb 88

[Text] Jakarta, February 19 (OANA-ANTARA)—Chief of Bakin, the National Intelligence Coordinating Board, Yoga Sugomo is of the opinion that it is not the right time now to unfreeze ties with the People's Republic of China (PRC).

During a hearing with the House's Commission I led by Chairman Suhadi Harjosudarmo here Thursday Sugomo said Indonesia is not to normalize relations with the PRC unless the latter admits and apologizes for its involvement in the 1965 abortive coup attempt which is also known as the G30S/PKI Movement, initiated by the Indonesian Communist Party.

As long as the PRC has not expressed its apology nor its promise to avoid such involvement again in the future, Indonesia will not unfreeze its relations with the country, he added.

Answering a question from a commission member, Sugomo said however, this does not mean that there is no trade relations between the two countries.

Indonesia had managed to expand trade with China and even enjoyed a trade surplus since it reopened direct trade ties with Beijing almost three years ago.

Commenting on the latent danger of the banned Indonesian Communist Party (PKI), the chief of Bakin said the International Congress of Communist Parties held in Budapest recently was joined in by 35 Indonesians ranging from 25 to 40 years of age.

This shows that we have lost track on the party's new cadres and it is our problem now, he added.

Touching on the activities of YKAM (Keluarga Adil Makmur Foundation), Sugomo said they are nothing more than dirty tricks.

He also hoped that people will not be tempted by YKAM which offers a loan of rp 5 million to its members who have made a down payment or initial deposit of only RP260,000.

Credits offered by the foundation according to the chief of Bakin come from nowhere but the savings of its members.

Iranian, Hungarian Ministers To Visit
BK181010 Jakarta International Service
in English 0800 GMT 18 Feb 88

[Text] The Indonesian Government has assigned Coordinating Minister for Public Welfare Alamsyah Ratu Prawiranegara to represent Republic of Indonesia at the inauguration of South Korean President No Tae-u scheduled to take place on February 25th.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, who disclosed the plan to newsmen after a meeting with President Suharto yesterday, also revealed that Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati will visit Indonesia February 22d and 23d while Hungarian Foreign Minister Dr Peter Varkonyi will be in this country from February 24th to 27th.

Murdani on Reduced Cooperation With Australia
*BK190706 Hong Kong AFP in English 0633 GMT
19 Feb 88*

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 19 (AFP)—Indonesia's defence cooperation with Australia has been cut back since 1986 and only a few programs have been retained "on a very selective basis," Armed Forces Commander Benni Murdani has said.

General Murdani also told a parliamentary hearing Thursday that Jakarta did not see Australia as an adversary although some Australian official papers depicted Indonesia as a potential threat.

Ties between the two neighbours soured in 1986 following Australian press reports regarded here as insulting to President Suharto.

At the time Indonesia took a number of retaliatory measures that included banning Australian press visits and trimming back various joint defence programs.

Gen Murdani said that until 1986 defence cooperation programs had ranged from the purchase of second-hand Australian Air Force planes, coastal patrol planes and small boats to aerial mapping and the sending of Indonesian officers for on-the-job training in Australia.

Cooperation since then has been conducted on a "very selective basis," he added, but did not detail the programs.

The general was asked by MPs to comment on a report prepared by Australian Defence Minister Kim Beazley last year and on the (Paul) Dibb report prepared for the Australian Armed Forces a year earlier suggesting that Indonesia was a potential threat to Canberra.

"We regard it as the right of a nation to prepare a contingency plan to face the worst situation. If Australia prepares such a concept and mentions Indonesia by name or simply refers to an archipelagic nation, we don't need to reply to it or draw up a matching concept," he replied.

"It is Australia's right to decide who is its enemies are or where its enemies come from," he said adding that there was no reason to fear the Dibb report.

"We do not see Australia as an adversary and they do not regard us as an enemy. There's no need to blow up the Dibb report," he added.

Suharto on Foreign Policy; Appoints Envoys
*BK161119 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0924 GMT
16 Feb 88*

[Text] Jakarta, February 16 (ANTARA/OANA)—President Suharto has expressed emphatically Indonesia's impartial stand towards the world's big powers, the more so confronting big powers.

"We like to have our own views and stands on world problems", the head of state said at the swearing in ceremony of ten new Indonesian ambassadors at the State Palace here Tuesday.

The president further said, through the implementation of its independent and active foreign policy, Indonesia is endeavouring to establish sincere friendship and mutual beneficial cooperation with all countries without discrimination of their respective political and social systems.

"We want to establish mutual understanding, respect other countries' principles as well as understand their problems. We do not want to interfere in other countries' domestic affairs as we do not tolerate interference of other countries in our domestic affairs", the president said.

The ten new ambassadors sworn in are respectively Taufik Rakman Sudargo assigned to the Kingdom of Morocco, Sukadari Atmowiyoto to Surinam, Wisber Louis as permanent representative to the UN office in Geneva, Switzerland, Major General (Ret.) Aswismarmo to the Republic of Vietnam [as received], Dr. Sumaryo Suryokusumo to the Kingdom of Jordan, Mohammad Hatta to Syria.

Darwoto was sworn in as ambassador to New Zealand, concurrently to Fiji and Samoa (residing in Wellington), Nana Sutresna as ambassador/permanent representative to the UN Headquarters in New York and Wiryono as ambassador to Austria, concurrently permanent representative at the UN office in Vienna and Dr. Cyrus Taihitu as ambassador to Norway and Iceland (residing in Oslo).

To the new ambassadors, the president stressed on the importance of their role in the current world situation which is full of great problems.

"On whatever is carried out by an ambassador will be decisive for the successful implementation of Indonesia's foreign policy", the president said.

He pointed out several facts where skillful and active diplomats were able to solve difficult world problems, notably in Indonesia's national struggle.

World recognition of Indonesia and the return of Irian Jaya to the folds of Indonesia were mentioned by the president as a close combination of the armed struggle and the struggle at the negotiating table.

In another part of his address, the president said, in facing the current uncertain world situation, Indonesia should continuously strengthen its national resilience, including its economic resilience, to enable it to resist negative impacts from outside.

Efforts to increase non-oil/gas exports as well as the flow of foreign tourists, which have shown positive results, will be further accelerated, if these efforts have the full and continuous support of the ambassadors abroad. "I therefore request you for your contribution in these all important efforts," the president said the newly appointed ambassadors. [sentence as received]

The swearing in ceremony was attended by a number of ministers, high state functionaries and other government officials.

Laos

Report on Thai Attacks Prior to Cease-Fire *BK190655 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 19 Feb 88*

[Text] To score more military advantages before the commencement of the cease-fire beginning 1700 on 17 February to 0600 on 18 February, Thai troops fired nearly 200 artillery shells of various calibres, including chemical-tipped shells, at Lao military positions. The report also said that at 1020 on 18 February, Thai infantrymen launched assaults against Lao military positions but met with strong resistance. A number of Thai soldiers were killed and wounded before they retreated.

At 1400 on the same day, they mobilized their troops to open another assault against a Lao military position. They were counterattacked and forced to retreat.

As of 1800 on 18 February, our fraternal Armed Forces were still able to firmly defend their positions.

News Conference on Military Talks Reported *BK181520 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 18 Feb 88*

[Text] At 1500 today [18 February], a news conference was held at KPL Club to inform newsmen about the success of the 2-day consultative meeting that was held in Bangkok between the military delegations of the LPDR and the Kingdom of Thailand. Speaking to a throng of both Lao and foreign reporters, Brigade General Thonglai Kommasit, deputy head of the Lao military delegation to the consultations, said that the meeting between the two military delegations proceeded smoothly in the spirit of brotherhood and good neighborliness and was held in a frank manner on the basis of

solving the problem and ending the Lao-Thai border quarrel. Both sides have signed a cease-fire agreement to separate their respective troops from each other and establish an inspection team. The cease-fire is scheduled to go into effect from 0800 tomorrow—19 February 1988. Both sides will pull back their respective troops to a distance of 3 km from the clash site within 48 hours after the commencement of the cease-fire. At the same time, a military coordination committee will be formed to verify, inspect, and coordinate strict implementation of the agreement. Both sides deem it necessary to instruct their respective troops operating along the Lao-Thai border to avoid armed clashes and to cooperate with the agreement.

Thonglai Kommasit said that the primary agreement creates an atmosphere conducive to the settlement of conflict in the area through political and peaceful means. It was therefore recommended to the Lao and Thai Governments that negotiations be held within 15 days after commencement of the cease-fire, to eliminate the existing dispute regarding the Lao-Thai borderline in the vicinity on the basis of legality and the France-Siam Treaty of 1907 and relevant maps.

Thonglai Kommasit reiterated: My delegation is of the opinion that this is a joint success for the two military delegations and a victory for the Lao and Thai people, and that this agreement correctly responds to the concern and support of friendly countries in the world, thus opening the door to diplomatic negotiations to solve the Lao-Thai problems. In conclusion, he said: We will try every means and do our utmost to fulfill the implementation of the agreement and earnestly hope that the Thai side will also strictly implement the agreement so as to turn this region into one of genuine peace, friendship, and cooperation.

Brig Gen Thonglai Kommasit then effectively answered questions raised by reporters until everyone of them was satisfied.

Fight Against 'Thai Air Pirates' Lauded *BK181436 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0430 GMT 14 Feb 88*

[Article: "Hail the Air Defense Unit of Boten District for Having Duly Punished the Thai Air Pirates"]

[Text] Since 11 February, the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries have committed another barbarous crime against Lao people in Boten District, Sayaboury Province, by sending their warplanes to drop 250-kg bombs on Nakok villages causing loss of property and life, destroying domestic animals and several houses, and putting local people into hardships and difficulties. In the face of these ferocious acts by the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries, the armed forces and people of Boten District resolutely and heroically counterattacked the Thai air pirates. At 1313 yesterday, they gunned down a Thai two-seater spy and bomber aircraft, an OV-10. The aerial

bombardment of the Lao village was another cruel and inhuman act that has exposed the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries' cruelty and their intention to slaughter ordinary civilians. Such a barbarous act is condemned by all civilized countries in the world.

It is noteworthy that the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries' barbarous act took place at the time when the LPDR Government and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand are making preparations for negotiations between military delegations of the two countries for the purpose of putting an end to the bloodshed resulting from the border dispute between both countries. The Lao and Thai peoples are elated by this new development and hope that the conflict between the two countries will be settled through peaceful means.

Nevertheless, a small group of the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai military circles disagree. This is particularly true of soldiers of the 3d Army Region who have been colluding with the capitalists in exploiting the Thai people and who have been recruiting the sons and nephews of the fraternal Thai people to fight the war and die for them. Therefore, they have begun to act arrogantly and make loud noises with the intention of destroying the atmosphere favorable to peace and friendship which the governments of both countries are making a joint effort to achieve. They are being condemned by the Lao and Thai people for doing that.

The Lao Armed Forces and people hail the determination and heroic spirit of armed forces and people of Boten District for having duly punished the Thai air pirates. It is an act of self-defense and a just cause for the armed forces and people of Boten District to fight against the Thai air pirates, the aggression, and land-grabbing operations by the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries. They do this to safeguard the brotherly and good neighborly relations between the two countries. Their ancestors, who built the Sisonghak Pagoda—the symbol of the affection and love between the Lao and Thai peoples—pledged to do likewise. For this reason, they are protected by their own merits and are victorious. The victory scored by the armed forces and people in punishing the Thai air pirates have elated the Lao and Thai peoples, who always revere the Sisonghak Stupa, and wish to maintain the long-existing intimate affection forever.

The Lao Armed Forces and people of all races will record in their history, and remember forever, this brilliant heroic deed of defeating the Thai air pirates who have committed crimes against the innocent Lao people. We firmly believe that the struggle of the armed forces and people of Boten District will certainly be victorious.

Military Delegation Departs for USSR
BK191041 Vientiane KPL in English
0905 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 19 (KPL)—A high military delegation of the Lao PDR led by Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-gnakon, alternate member of the LPRP

CC, deputy-minister of defence left here for the Soviet Union on February 17 to attend the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Lieutenant General Osakan Thammatheva, member of the LPRP CC, deputy-minister of defence, head of the General Political Department, Lieutenant General Ai Souli-gnaseeng, member of the LPRP CC, head of the General Staff Department of the Lao People's Army together with a number of high ranking officers.

Military attaches of the Soviet Union, the SRV, the PR of Kampuchea and the GDR to Laos were also present at the airport on this occasion.

Soviet AAPSO Delegation Arrives 16 February
BK191045 Vientiane KPL in English
0900 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 19 (KPL)—A delegation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With the Afro-Asian people, led by Shubin, who is also first vice-president of the Soviet Committee for the support to Laos, Vietnam, Kampuchea and also deputy head of the Supreme Court of the USSR arrived here on February 16 for an official visit.

During its stay here, the Soviet delegation is to meet with the delegation of the Lao Committee for Peace, Solidarity and Friendship With Other Nations. The sides will discuss measures to promote the cooperation between the two organizations and with solidarity movement in the region. The Soviet delegation is also expected to meet with mass organizations in Vientiane capital and Luang Prabang Province.

Party Official Meets Komsomol Delegation
BK131449 Vientiane KPL in English
0912 GMT 13 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 13 (KPL)—Somlat Chanthatamat, secretary of the party CC, head of the Propaganda and Training Board Central Committee received here on February 12 a delegation of the Komsomol Lenin Youth CC headed by S. Golovachey, director of its higher theory school.

During the cordial meeting, S. Chanthatamat wished the delegation a successful visit to Laos. He hoped that the exchange of lessons between the two youth organizations on the training of young generations will be fruitful.

Soviet Stand on Afghan Issue Hailed
BK171115 Vientiane KPL in English
0901 GMT 17 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 17 (KPL)—The Lao party and government welcome the Soviet statement relating to Afghan affairs and consider it a good opportunity for all sides involved to implement the national reconciliation policy in Afghanistan.

This was stated by Phoun Sipaseut, Politburo member of the LPRP CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, in an interview granted to KPL correspondent on February 15. The foreign minister highly assessed the statement concerning the settlement of Afghan affairs as put forth on February [date not given] by M. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU CC, and described it as an indication of Soviet readiness to see the problem solved by political means.

"The statement once again clearly attests to the realistic principles aiming at ensuring security, cooperation, mutual and peaceful coexistence among neighbours and states in Asia and the Pacific region. It is the first practical step in the execution of the Vladivostok and New Delhi statements for the amelioration of the situation and doing away with tension in the region which affect the general atmosphere in international relations," said Phoun Sipaseut.

He added that if the next month Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva through the mediation of the U.N. secretary general's special envoy works, it will lead to a definite time table for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan as agreed between the Soviet and Afghan governments according to which the withdrawal is scheduled to be started on May 15 and lasted within 10 months.

The Lao foreign minister wholeheartedly hailed the Afghan national reconciliation policy calling for uniting all patriotic forces in order to build a progressive, democratic and selfmastered Afghanistan. He also added that the Soviet statement was of particular importance to foster the Afghan national reconciliation, and ensuring a normal situation around Afghanistan, on the one hand, and putting a stop on the reactionary's hostile activities and all forms of intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan in order to ensure the country's independence, democracy and prosperity.

Leaders Greet Iranian Revolution Anniversary
BK151350 Vientiane KPL in English
0905 GMT 11 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 11 (KPL)—Phoumi Vongvichit, acting-president of the Lao PDR, and Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR, today sent greeting messages to their Iranian counterparts Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i and Mir Hoseyn Musavi.

The Lao leaders conveyed warm wishes of happiness and prosperity to the government and people of the Islamic Republic Iran on the occasion of the 9th anniversary of the victory of the Iranian revolutionary.

The Lao leaders also wished for further development of friendship relations for the benefits of the two countries peoples, for peace, stability and social progress.

Also on the same occasion, Phoun Sipaseut, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, sent greetings to Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Paper Reports Hmong Resistance Group
BK190201 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
19 Feb 88 p 4

[Text] There is no reason to doubt the sincerity of the Hmong with a vision. Already, many of his people say that he is obviously heir to the title "King of the Hmong," a title vacant for some 10 years.

Certainly, if the self-assured Pa Kao Her is able to achieve his goal of a multi-racial, non-communist Laos, he'll win the title hands down.

Already, the former commando has managed to gather a loyal force and set up a viable, anti-Vientiane political base. He calls it the Ethnics' Liberation Organisation of Laos (ELOL), and it includes members of the Lao race and 11 other Laotian nationalities.

It may be fitting that the Hmong, or Miao, have been awarded the leadership of ELOL. They were the best-known of the minority fighters during the 1962-1975 Laotian conflict, and they have taken the major brunt of post-war retaliation from their communist foes.

Pa Kao Her, who is about 50 years old, has put together ELOL from Laotians who have stayed near and in Laos since the communist victory of 1975.

In a way, ELOL is a rival of the National United Front for the Liberation of Laos (NUFL). But the latter group, while claiming to have troops battling on the ground in Laos, is led almost exclusively by expatriates.

A chief personality in NUFL is Vang Pao, who was the leader of the CIA-raised "secret army" during the earlier war. The U.S.-based Vang Pao also has long aspired to be known as King of the Hmong, but Pa Kao Her carefully demurs.

"We know Vang Pao and the NUFL, because they are old leaders," he said during an interview near his headquarters in northern Laos. "But they are not the leaders of Laos today, because they never come inside" the country.

Pa Kao Her makes no claim to being King of the Hmong, by the way. It is not a subject even raised during two lengthy meetings.

But the Hmong, or at least the Hmong of Laos, have been without an acknowledged "king" since 1975. That's when the victorious Pathet Lao hauled Touby Ly Fong out of Vientiane to their northeastern Gulag, and killed him.

Vang Pao, a far better known figure outside Laos, covets Touby's title for years. But the honorary monarchy is awarded by a subtle form of democracy. Vang Pao, acknowledged by all as a fine military man, was missing a few of the prerequisites for the full title.

Pa Kao Her has set himself the liberation mission. He is undaunted by the fact that 12 years in the jungle has brought him little in tangible success. "We'd like to win quickly," he said. "But 12 years is nothing. We still have the will."

He has a military force, parts of which can be seen by any visitor to his camp. He stresses the necessity for small teams, a remnant of the commando training that won him four U.S. medals alone during the fighting in Vietnam in the late 1960s.

His armed force is obviously small, compared to the tens of thousands of Pathet Lao and Vietnamese he hopes to overcome. The number is a secret, but he figures a smaller guerrilla force can overturn the Vientiane regime, given time, help and some luck.

"Help" is the big problem. He gets some outside support, including from a European known in his area as "JB". EOL is also in touch with conservatives in the United States in the search for aid.

Pa Kao Her hopes for the return of the United States government to the Laotian fray, on his side of course. "I think, in time, they might support us," he said at one point.

But he ruled out, in the interview, any cooperation with the communist government headed by Kaysone Phomvihan, at least for the present.

"Our No. 1 goal is to get the Vietnamese out of Laos, to allow the Lao to control their own people," he said. "Kaysone is a bad man. His brain is a Vietnamese brain."

He is just as certain that, even if Laotians were allowed a free vote—and he considers this unrealistic during wartime—they would turn down communist rule.

But he is willing to talk to, and cooperate with, other resistance groups. Particularly, he notes that several young resistance leaders are moving up on the scene, untainted—like him—with failures and corruption of the recent past.

What Pa Kao Her and the EOL might gain ultimately remains to be seen. But he points out one point on his side.

"In the entire communist apparatus in Laos, only 17 Hmong are members and five of them are in Vientiane."

He has probably the best-known name of any of his people on the scene, and he seems to have their support.

Footnote: Like many resistance leaders, Pa Kao Her has given much thought to establishing a government-in-exile against the Kaysone regime.

Unlike many, he realises the diplomatic problems involved, since virtually every government in the world recognises Kaysone.

He may get around this problem, he said, by forming a rival government that would operate only inside Laos.

A model would be the Kampuchean exile group headed by Prince Sihanouk during the 1970-75 Lon Nol days.

For the moment, EOL is only a group. But it is set up with five executive sections, and 13 subordinate divisions.

Formed during a meeting held last November 7-10, the structure is a government in everything but name, with the "subordinate departments" looking exactly like ministries.

The idea of a government-in-exile is clearly up for discussion.

Briefs

World Bank Grants Loan

Vientiane, February 15 (OANA-KPL)—The World Bank has granted a loan of 25.8 million U.S. dollars to the Lao PDR, disclosed the Foreign Ministry here. An official of the ministry said that the loan will be used in the rural electrification projects in the southern Lao provinces. Agreement on the loan was signed on February 1 in Washington by the representatives of the Lao Embassy and World Bank. [Text] *[Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 15 Feb 88 BK]*

Philippines

Ramos Cites U.S. Bases Role in Defense
*HK190919 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
in English 19 Feb 88 p 22*

[By Max Sangil]

[Text] Clark Air Base—Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos cited Tuesday the importance of U.S. military facilities in the Philippines and underscored their roles in the defense of this country from possible external aggression.

Ramos' statement, which came in the heels of congressional debate on the future of the military bases here, was interpreted here as the defense department's endorsement of continued stay of American military facilities here.

The defense secretary, who spoke during the ninth anniversary celebration of the Clark Air Base command, said the bonds of cooperation between the United States and the Philippines was improved by new avenues of understanding in the economic, political, military and cultural areas.

"Our relationship with the U.S. may not always be a rosy one but by and large it is a relationship that was strengthened by the test of time," Ramos said.

According to Ramos, the Philippines should continue to cooperate with the U.S. although it does not face any immediate external threat.

He said the country remains committed to develop a self-reliant defense posture.

Honasan, Others Level Charges Against Ramos
HK181406 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY INQUIRER
in English 18 Feb 88 pp 1, 11

[by Ed Perpina and Marien Ronquillo]

[Text] Charges of corruption and lack of combat experience—from the leader of the Aug. 28 failed putsch and a group of young military officers—were leveled against Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos yesterday in an apparent bid to block his confirmation by the Commission on Appointments.

The bicameral commission has scheduled hearings this week and next week on Ramos' nomination.

But the defense secretary appeared to be taking the charges in stride. Informed of them, Ramos told the INQUIRER: "If that's the case, then I'll just have to defend myself before the commission."

In a letter to a congressman last week, the contents of which were bared to media only yesterday, dismissed Army Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan accused Ramos of having "promoted syndicated corruption" in the Armed Forces by "placing his close associates in strategic comptrollership posts."

Enclosed in Honasan's letter were computer printouts of a report earlier submitted by fellow renegade officer, Air Force Col. Hector Tarazona, to Sen Mamintal Tamano.

That report, according to sources, told of irregularities in the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] financial institutions, an unjust promotions system and abuse of soldiers' human rights.

In his letter, Honasan claimed Ramos, as chief of staff of the Armed Forces, formed his own "comptroller family" to cover up for shortfalls in the AFP's budget.

A comptroller regulates the release of budget and checks these releases against the approved budget plan.

Honasan said Ramos' comptroller family "gave rise to syndicated corruption in the (military's) budget-clearing system" because "the members were able to manipulate accounting and audit reports of every military unit."

Honasan claimed the comptroller family system—established during the Marcos years—"was never dismantled" by Ramos.

Honasan said Ramos, in perpetuating the practice, assigned as head of the AFP comptroller office two officials who are "notoriously known as sources or reasons for corruption."

Honasan alleged that the patronage system in the AFP was "never really changed" by Ramos. He cited two cases.

—The assignment of a certain Colonel Filler to the Intelligence Service of the AFP (ISAFP) as assistant chief "when in fact he (Filler) was never in the intelligence community."

—Opportunities for foreign schooling were open only to close relatives of Ramos.

Tarazona, a former special assistant of former Defense Secretary Rafael Illo, said in a report that he was a victim of the unjust promotions system in the AFP. He claimed he "deserved to be promoted" to full colonel effective Jan. 1 last year or almost eight months before the Aug. 28 coup attempt but that Malacanang withdrew its nomination for Tarazona's promotion after he was implicated in the putsch.

On alleged anomalies in AFP financial institutions, Tarazona reported that the current president and general manager of the AFP Savings and Loan Association, Inc. [AFPSLAI] whom he did not name, granted interest-free loans worth P2 million to himself and other key officers of AFPSLAI.

He claimed the official has not been relieved of his post despite recommendations made by the AFP Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Board.

The other charges against Ramos were hurled by a group calling itself "Young Officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines."

They were contained in an information sheet copies of which were furnished all members of the 25-man Commission on Appointments [CA].

Although the sheet did not carry the signatures of the accusers, the information provided now forms part of the materials from which the CA members could base their questions to Ramos during confirmation hearings.

A copy of the "charge sheet" which was obtained by the INQUIRER said Ramos has total assets of a little over P5 million—mostly houses and residential and agricultural lands.

The young officers also charged that Ramos had no actual combat experience and his tours of duty in Korea, Vietnam and here did not prepare him for a high position in the military.

After his graduation from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1950 to his appointment as AFP chief of staff in February 1986, Ramos held easy, noncombat jobs which he gained through his powerful relatives, the young officers charged.

Referring to Ramos' military career, the officers said: "It was tailor-made. Unlike a truly military professional, whose career development was determined by the general headquarters and his major services. [sentence as published] Because of his connections and blood relations with the powers-that-be, was able to get the choice assignments and schoolings. [sentence as published]

"It was during Ramos' term as chief of the Constabulary that the service deteriorated. He failed to reform the PC, instill discipline and remove all erring personnel and eradicate corruption. In fact it was during his time that more glaring misdeeds were committed by PC officers," said the complaint.

According to Ramos' accusers, the defense secretary has 25 titles to houses, residential and agricultural lots, including some in plush residential areas in Metro Manila.

He lives in New Alabang, Muntinlupa, but also has houses and lots in plush residential areas in Makati and Quezon City plus houses and lots in Tagaytay City, Baguio City and Antipolo Rizal and other holdings in Laguna, Pangasinan and Bataan, the complaint said.

Ramos placed his liability at P2.9 million, including a P200,000-loan from his father, the late Ambassador Narciso Ramos.

Ramos Shrugs Off Allegations
HK181414 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
in English 18 Feb 88 pp 1,11

[By Cesar Espino]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos yesterday shrugged off the corruption charges against him, saying his accusers had "obvious" reasons for doing so.

"The people making these statements are apparently those now being disciplined, again as part of the reforms we are instituting in the Armed Forces," Ramon told the INQUIRER in an interview.

Ramos said dismissed Army Lt Col Gregorio Honasan and former Air Force Lt Col Hector Tarazona, classmates in the Philippine Military Academy, had made similar attempts in the past to destroy his image.

Ramos denied Tarazona's charges that he was being detained because of what he knows about an alleged syndicate being maintained by Ramos in the operation of financial institutions of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] and its overall comptrollership.

Tarazona is being held on the basis of a written testimony of Maj Gen Antonio Sotelo, Air Force chief, Ramos said. Sotelo had said that Tarazona called him up at the height of the Aug 28 coup attempt, asking the general to surrender because rebel forces under Tarazona had taken over Villamor air base, which houses the PAF [Philippine Air Force] headquarters.

Ramos also furnished the INQUIRER with a photocopy of a Jan 19 letter he submitted to the Defense Secretary Rafael Illeto detailing the achievements of the different AFP financial institutions.

Ramos said that after the February 1986 revolution, major changes in the management of AFP financial institutions had to be taken, including the formation of a board of directors, to oversee operations.

The letter showed significant increases in the earnings of the different financial institutions, namely, the AFP Retirement and Separation Benefits System (AFPRSPS), AFP Savings and Loan Association Inc (AFPSLAI), AFP Mutual Benefit Association (AFPGIC) and AFP Commissary and Exchange Service (AFPCES).

The consolidated gross revenues of these institutions in 1987, for instance, reached P930.54-million, or an increase of 49.58 percent from revenues of P622.08 million generated in 1986.

Ramos said in his letter to Illeto: "The improvements in the over-all financial performance and delivery of benefits to members of the service are attributed to the policy initiatives directed by the AFP leadership; the general improvements in the economy; and the continued thrust and reformist attitude of the respective board and management of these institutions that sought to achieve the best in terms of earnings for the respective institutions and delivery of services/benefits to the members."

Ramos added that the successes of the financial institutions are also largely attributed to austerity measures he initiated not only within these institutions but also within the entire Armed Forces.

Ramos was cordial during the interview and appeared undisturbed by the charges. When told that the report is already with the Commission on Appointments, Ramos said: "Well, if that's the case, I guess I will just have to defend myself before the Commission."

On the charges that he had been putting his men to handle the comptrollership of the AFP, Ramos briefly answered: "We appoint persons on the basis of performance, or those who are capable of doing the job."

He did not comment on similar charges of corruption levels against him by a group of young officers. The group also claimed Ramos has had no combat experience and that he got his high position in the military because of "powerful connections."

De Villa Appeals for House Support on Insurgency
HK181520 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English
18 Feb 88 p 12

[Text] Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief of staff Gen Renato De Villa yesterday admitted that the insurgency situation is "at a very serious stage" and appealed to the House of Representatives to support the military in the fight against communist insurgents.

De Villa made the admission and the appeal in response to a question from Rep Jaime Lopez (PDP-Laban [Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan—Nation's Strength], Manila), during a hearing of the House subcommittee on the protection and promotion of human rights which is conducting a legislative inquiry into the alleged human rights violations committed by the Aquino government.

During the hearing, De Villa told the subcommittee that the recently concluded Jan 18 local elections "should have opened the eyes of everybody on the seriousness" of the insurgency situation.

He said during the last election the AFP had to deploy forces in many areas because "probably more people would have been killed by them (communist insurgent) and they would have demanded so much more from the candidates other than what they have demanded" if the soldiers were not around.

"Can you imagine a situation in a democratic country where we cannot elect our officials without paying the enemies of the state," De Villa asked the subcommittee.

He said that this is the reason why the AFP is "practically at war" with the communists in order "to bring down the insurgency so that we can have peace and order."

De Villa also appealed to the members of Congress to support the fight against insurgency, saying the AFP "needs the Congress to help us stamp out insurgency in this country."

"We need your support to see to it that we have the proper instruments to put behind bars these violators of law," he said.

De Villa warned that the State and the AFP, as the agent of the State, "will find it very difficult to put down the insurgency" if investigations of human rights violations are concentrated only against the AFP and agents of the State.

He said intensive human rights investigations "in the long term could demoralize the members of the AFP."

De Villa's admission of the seriousness of the insurgency situation is the first to be made by the AFP chief of staff the highest ranking military official.

It echoes a statement made last week by Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos before the House committee on suffrage and electoral reforms, where Ramos appealed for a postponement of the barangay elections, originally scheduled for May 9, because of reports that the Communist Party of the Philippines—New People's Army (CPP-NPA) intends to get involved in the polls.

The committee has since passed a resolution calling for the postponement of the barangay elections to Nov 14.

Resents Human Rights Charges
HK180216 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 17 Feb 88

[Text] AFP Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa warned that continued charges of human rights violations against members of the military who are merely doing their duty to protect the country could demoralize them. Gen de Villa made this statement at a public hearing by the House Subcommittee for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights on the alleged violations of the rights of leaders of the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines] captured earlier this month. According to De Villa, some members of the military feel they are being made to answer for doing their duty. He gave assurances however that he would not tolerate any abuses by the men in uniform and that violations of human rights would be dealt with accordingly.

Aquino, Ramos Disagree on NPA-Controlled Areas
HK190833 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0700 GMT 19 Feb 88

[Text] President Corazon Aquino has disagreed with Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos' statement claiming that 20 percent of the country's barangays are controlled by communist rebels. The president declared this in an

ambush interview with Malacanang newsmen. Mrs Aquino believes that even if the rebels have a certain influence in some barangays, they do not control them.

[Begin Aquino recording in English] Precisely this is why we are pressing on with the economic development so that we can address these problems. [end recording]

Secretary Ramos had previously appeared before the senate committee on national defense. According to him, of the country's more than 41,000 barangays, more than 5,000 are infiltrated and 3,000 are heavily influenced. Ramos explained to the committee the kind of laws to be implemented to fortify the government's anti-insurgency campaign.

Aquino Addresses Constitutional Conference
HK190945 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English
19 Feb 88 p 12

[Text] President Aquino yesterday reiterated that there were no instant solutions, no short-cuts to the hard work of recovery.

Addressing participants to the Philippine International Conference on Constitutional Principles and Issues at the Philippine International Convention Center, the President said the work of recovery will be long and hard since the "damage we inherited was that great."

She said, "There can be no short-cuts, no instant solutions, no manna from heaven, no Marshall plan, mini or maxi."

Malacanang sources clarified that this statement of the President did not mean that the Government had lost hope on the mini version of the Marshall Plan which the United States had implemented to bring its European allies back on its feet after World War II and which friends of the Aquino Government in the U.S. Congress would want to be duplicated for the Philippines.

Meanwhile, in her speech, the President pledged her partnership with the Supreme Court in rebuilding the infrastructure of the justice system in the country.

She cited her "modest" contributions to the field of law, that is, "318 laws and the Philippine Constitution in the year and a half of my extraordinary powers."

The President described these laws as ranging from the renovation of the apparatus of the State to the rectification of old injustices—"in general, establishing the framework and climate wherein our people can work in freedom for progress and with a reasonable expectation of a just and lasting peace."

She also took occasion to instruct Justice Secretary Sedfrey Ordonez and Budget Secretary Guillermo Carague to discuss with the Supreme Court the creation of a joint Executive-Judiciary committee that will prepare an infrastructure plan for the courts.

This plan, she said, must be made to "fit with the public works programs we are implementing to generate quick employment."

Added the President, "We have built a democracy a worthy house; it is time we attended to the needs of justice."

Vows Action on Courts
HK181141 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
1000 GMT 18 Feb 88

[Text] President Aquino has vowed to help restore order to the country's judiciary system. She made the promise during a speech before the Philippine International Conference on Constitutional Principles and Issues at the PICC [Philippine International Convention Center] this morning. Here is Sel Baesa for the details:

[Begin recording] The president said in her speech that the lack of care and mismanagement in the judiciary system continue in spite of the reforms implemented by the new administration. Mrs Aquino said that the courts are like squatters, due to their lack of libraries, loss of important documents, and the slow settlement of cases. In relation to this, the president has ordered Justice Secretary Sedfrey Ordonez and Budget Secretary Guillermo Carague to hold a meeting with the Supreme Court authorities on the formation of a joint executive and judiciary committee. [end recording]

Swears In New Comelec
BK161727 Hong Kong AFP in English 1652 GMT
16 Feb 88

[Text] Manila, Feb 16 (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino Tuesday swore into office a new national election watchdog commission which has promised to reform the Philippines' chaotic polling system.

Former MP Hilarion Davide, who was active in the opposition to former president Ferdinand Marcos and helped draft the 1987 Philippine Constitution, was sworn in as chairman of the seven-member Commission on Elections (Comelec).

Five commissioners also took their oath of office at the presidential palace Tuesday, completing the poll body, which had been paralyzed for two weeks by a difficult confirmation process of the Aquino nominees in Congress.

One commissioner who was confirmed ahead of them was sworn in earlier.

Mr. Davide, a 53-year-old lawyer and former professor of law, has promised to reform the country's election system, which relied on manual tabulation and has traditionally been marred by bloodshed and fraud.

The new appointees face some 600 protests filed by losing candidates in the last local elections, whose final installment ended Monday.

Pledges Political Role for Muslims
*HK190911 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
in English 19 Feb 88 p 22*

[By Jerry Esplanada]

[Text] President Aquino yesterday renewed her commitment to integrate Muslims into the political mainstream and ensure their participation in the Regional Consultative Commission [RCC] she is setting up.

In a meeting with members of the government's Islamic Mission, Ms. Aquino said that "steps are being taken to develop Mindanao and Sulu."

Philippine Ambassador to the U.S. Emmanuel Pelaez told Palace newsmen that Ms. Aquino has instructed the mission to assure the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC] that "the Muslims here are being given their place under the sun."

Pelaez, former chairman of the Philippine panel which negotiated with the Moro National Liberation Front, said: "Never had the Muslims been given so much participation in government. They have a Supreme Court Justice. They have a member of the Comelec. All governors in Muslim provinces are Muslims. They have about eight congressmen and two senators and they have so many mayors."

Pelaez added, "We checked on the number of Muslims who are serving in the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] and the number is greater in proportion to the number of Christians."

He said they will bring the President's message to the OIC through the embassies in Islamic countries.

"Aside from that, these ambassadors are briefed on what the government is doing not only with the Muslims but with the whole government program," Pelaez added.

In another interview, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said that as far as the MNLF's bid to the OIC is concerned, "the position of the Philippine government is secure although we are not going to let-up in our efforts to make sure that the national interest and integrity of the territory are protected."

Manglapus said the government's prospects are not necessarily dim. "The focus has been on the development of areas in Mindanao and Sulu and the integration of the Muslim population into the political life of the country."

Peace Commission chairman Alfredo Bengzon told reporters that "there are Muslims and people associated with the MNLF and other separatist groups in the regional consultative commission."

Asked if the RCC aims to foil the MNLF membership bid to the OIC, Bengzon said: "I would not say foil. It is not the appropriate word. There is a mandate in the Constitution that tells us that 18 months after the convening of Congress, an RCC must be constituted to help Congress enact laws."

Aquino Answers Listeners' Questions

[Passages within slantlines in English]

HK150323 [Editorial Report] Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog at 1300 GMT on 14 February carries a 50-minute live program entitled "Magtanong sa Pangulo" ("Meet the President") in which President Corazon Aquino answers listeners' questions, most of which are phoned in, while others are relayed by the moderator Orly.

President Aquino begins by saying that she has been meeting with the nominees for the Regional Consultative Commission which will study the issue of regional autonomy, as well as with the nominees for the Cordillera Executive Board. She says her coming visit to Mindanao is being undertaken to acquaint her with the region's problems. Orly wishes her a happy Valentine's Day, and Mrs Aquino sends best wishes to the Senate President and Mrs Salonga on the occasion of their wedding anniversary, and to Senator Juan Ponce Enrile on his birthday.

A lawyer from Pangasinan asks for the president's reaction to the local government secretary's recommendation that two prominent renegade officers be granted amnesty. President Aquino replies that the secretary has clarified this by claiming that he was speaking in his personal capacity and was misquoted by the press. She reiterates her policy on the matter: /"The electoral victory of Abadilla and Aguinaldo does not necessarily mean exoneration. Our judicial system must be strictly upheld in prosecuting those who have committed acts against the Filipino people. In the case of Colonel Abadilla, this is not for me alone to decide but we will have to wait for the departments of defense and justice to determine whether Colonel Abadilla would assume office or not. Again, let me say that this administration has always been for reconciliation. But when we talk of reconciliation, this has to be based on justice. It is a necessary condition for

peace and national advancement. We have to have unity of purpose to achieve our dreams because, as I have always said, there is only one Filipino dream as there is only one Philippines."/

A resident of Marawi City asks for a clear statement on the government's program to preserve peace in Mindanao. Mrs Aquino says she has created the Peace Commission which has a two-pronged approach to the Muslim problem in Mindanao's 13 provinces—political and economic. She assures the caller that democratic consultations are going on with Mindanao residents all the time, and she asks for the support of the private sector in helping the government establish a lasting peace in the region.

A Manila graduate student asks if the president will sign the commissions for the graduates of the Philippine Military Academy [PMA] who supported the rebel Colonel Gregorio Honasan. Mrs Aquino says, /"The position of this administration is that no one in this nation is exempt from the full brunt of our laws regarding actions for which they are responsible, and this includes the PMA cadets who sympathized with the aborted 28 August coup attempt. The seriousness of that action has been subjected to review, not only by the PMA authorities, but also by the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] hierarchy and by the cabinet cluster on security and political development. This Cabinet cluster is composed of the secretaries of justice, foreign affairs, national defense, and local governments, and also the National Security Council directors. The cadets were found to have been misled and misdirected by their tactical officers. The majority of the cadets were found to support reforms within the Armed Forces, but they did not want to support the reforms through the use of violence. Four cadets however unilaterally aired their demands for reform over Baguio City radio, and this was made in a language which went far beyond the mere expression of a desire for reform. In other words, these cadets went beyond what was originally agreed upon by all of the cadets. And then the cluster finally recommended to me that the punishment that was given to them was already sufficient, and on such basis, they will be allowed to graduate on schedule. Their first assignment, however, will be under mature officers who will instill total dedication to the constitution and the tenets of the Armed Forces."/

The president also answers questions on the customs revamp, the community employment development program, exorbitant prices for medicine, the release of the P10 salary increase and cost-of-living allowance for government employees, Laguna road repairs, students' medical allowances, and the current conflict between the government and the Commission on Appointments over her nominees.

President Aquino ends the program by saying that Valentine's Day should make Filipinos learn to love each other and be united, as well as think of the good of the

majority of the people. She says this is what she plans to do during her visit to Mindanao, to see what the minorities in that region need because every citizen in the nation is important. She says, "I hope that Valentine's Day will be more than just a day for lovers. I would like to think that all of us Filipinos will indeed love one another and work to help each other. I think this is very important."/

Convening of Security Council Requested
HK181528 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 18 Feb 88 p 9

[By staff member Tress Martelino]

[Text] The opposition Grand Alliance for Democracy (GAD) yesterday accused the Aquino Government of failing to "grasp the meaning of the insurgency problem."

It also charged that the Government does not have the "leadership, competence or capability" to deal with the problem.

In a press conference, Francisco Tatad, GAD chairman, urged the immediate convening of the National Security Council (NSC) to review the situation.

Tatad also demanded that the opposition be represented at the NSC, preferably Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile or somebody "duly elected by opposition members."

He said that while the opposition welcomed the Government decision to reject the military proposal to declare a state of emergency, it was still urging President Aquino to give the insurgency problem top priority.

"This will enable the Government to arrive at the bipartisan position on how to deal with the communist insurgency and the secessionist problem in Mindanao," Tatad said.

He added: "It is abnormal and unfortunate that in the face of the most serious threats to the security of the nation, the President has failed to constitute and convene the NSC and continues to cut out the opposition from any discussion of national security issues. We urge her to rectify this grave error."

Tatad also noted that the President has not denied the existence of an aide memoire addressed to her from U.S. Ambassador Nicholas Platt.

The note reportedly suggested a joint effort by the U.S. and the Philippines to "manage" the review the military bases agreement this April.

Interview With MNLF Officer on Arms, Aid
HK190821 Hong Kong AFP in English 0642 GMT
19 Feb 88

[By Cecil Morella]

[Text] Maimbung, Philippines, Feb 19 (AFP)—Moslem separatist rebels are stockpiling arms and ammunition with foreign support as they press for full membership in the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC).

An uneasy peace reigns in this stronghold of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), which is backed by Libya and other Moslem states in its 16-year-old campaign for self-rule in the largely Roman Catholic Philippines.

MNLF leaders interviewed by AGENCIE FRANCE-PRESSE near Maimbung denied military charges that they were preparing for a dramatic new offensive timed for an OIC meeting in Jordan starting March 21.

But they said they were receiving shipments of firearms from unspecified foreign governments and buying weapons on the black market, in case they have to revive an armed campaign that has cost an estimated 100,000 lives.

"No revolution can last long without outside support," said Abou Amri Tadik, a local MNLF officer, in an interview.

He said that apart from foreign donors, the MNLF also got arms from Philippine troops who need cash, or from international weapons smugglers.

Hatimil Hassan, vice chairman of the MNLF central committee, said the group has received arms and other forms of support from foreign governments. He declined to name them, although other MNLF sources affirmed that Libya was their main military and political supporter.

The Moros, as Filipino Moslems are known, number five million out of a national population of 57 million.

The MNLF currently has observer status in the OIC. But it wants to be elevated to full membership like the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which would give it a strong boost in the United Nations and other international forums.

Full OIC membership would also entitle them to receive more aid from Islamic nations, where they can set up representative offices as the PLO has.

Mr Hassan said the MNLF was optimistic that Islamic governments will allow it to become an OIC member.

"The MNLF is more viable than the PLO. We are in our homeland. We have our own armed forces, and we have an existing political apparatus," he said.

The MNLF controls villages around Maimbung, in the Sulu Islands, about 900 kilometers (560 miles) south of Manila, seat of Spanish and U.S. colonial rulers and their Filipino successors who have failed to totally subjugate the Moros for four centuries.

Armed Moros man roadside checkpoints that are a mortar shot away from battle-ready government marines as both sides observe a ceasefire forged by President Corazon Aquino and MNLF chief Nur Misuari in September 1986.

The MNLF claims to have 200,000 guerrillas, all of them armed, across Mindanao and surrounding islands bordering the Malaysian state of Sabah, a Moro sanctuary and channel of clandestine aid for the separatists.

But the military says the MNLF and two separatist factions have only 20,000 men among themselves, half of them armed, and that the rebels would run out of bullets after only a week of all-out fighting.

The rebels vow to fight for another century if necessary to attain self-rule, and reject Mrs. Aquino's offer of limited political autonomy and full-scale economic development if they lay down their arms.

Major General Cesar Tapia, commander of the Philippine Southern Command, which includes more than a third of the 160,000-strong armed forces, estimated that the MNLF has brought 600 rifles into the country in the past six months.

But "that's just a tiny part," said Mr. Tadik, who sported a .45-calibre pistol in his waistband during the interview at a roadside hut guarded by 40 guerrillas with AK-47 rifles and a rocket launcher.

"We buy firearms from international smugglers from time to time. There is no problem so long as you have the money," Mr. Tadik said. "Sometimes we buy firearms from the enemy."

He said an M-16 rifle, the standard weapon of the Philippine military, can be bought for 10,000 pesos (475 dollars) from troops, while an AK-47 costs 15,000 pesos (715 dollars) in the international black market.

Mr Tadik said "we always send our people abroad" for training in guerilla warfare as well as the manufacture of ammunition and operating artillery and anti-aircraft guns. He declined to name the training areas.

MNLF Says No Way to Block Islamic Body Bid
HK180829 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0700 GMT 18 Feb 88

[Text] The Philippines has no way of blocking the MNLF's bid for membership in the Organization of Islamic Conference Organization [OIC]. This was announced by Sharif Zain Jali, the official spokesman of MNLF chairman Nur Misuri. At the same time, Jali made reference to the possibility that 35 members of the OIC will favor the MNLF's admission. This issue will be discussed during the OIC conference in Amman, Jordan on 21 March. The ICO is composed of 46 member countries.

Thailand

Some 70 Killed in Lao Border 'Mishap'
HK191058 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST
in English 19 Feb 88 p 5

[By Chuchart Kangwaan and Alan Boyd]

[Text] Thai troops fighting Laotian forces for control of a disputed border area suffered high casualties earlier this month after being accidentally bombed by their own air force.

The blunder, which has not been publicly disclosed in Thailand, was confirmed to the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST by a senior Thai official.

At least 70 Thai ground troops were killed during a bombing raid by their F5 fighters on a Laotian position west of a contested strategic point known as Hill 1428.

The official said the incident occurred on February 3 after Thai infantrymen, supported by crack cavalry troops and para-military forces, were sent to dislodge Laotian fighters who had dug into the strategic hill, about 550 kilometres north of Bangkok.

Hill 1428 and two other nearby peaks have been the centre of a border dispute between Thailand and Laos since last May. Fighting erupted in mid-December after Laotian troops occupied the hills.

Bangkok claimed the area as part of Chat Trakan District in Thailand's northern Phitsanulok Province and supported this with internationally-accepted documentation, including maps which place the hills on its side of the border.

However, Vientiane said Thai troops encroached on its territory in the Boten District of Sayaboury Province in southern Laos as early as March last year. It also blamed Thailand for the eight-week conflict, charting that Thai forces launched a military campaign which resulted in heavy fighting by the end of last year.

A cease-fire agreement was announced in Bangkok on Wednesday.

The air force blunder came after repeated Thai attempts to take Hill 1428, where both sides suffered heavy casualties.

The hill was heavily defended with anti-aircraft batteries, which forced the Thai air force into the error, said the senior Thai official.

In face of intense ground fire, Thai jets strafing the hill had been forced to drop their bombs from a very high altitude. This led to the pilots mistaking their own infantrymen for their opposing Laotian ground forces.

Thailand has not made any mention of the incident, and casualty figures in the conflict have in any case been notoriously unreliable.

However, one Thai official said that at least 70 Thai soldiers were killed and many more injured in the mishap. Earlier unconfirmed reports had put the casualty figure in the hundreds.

Bangkok has paid a heavy price for its use of aerial strikes during the conflict. Vientiane reacted to the bombings by bringing in lethal SAM-7 and SAM-9 missiles and quickly drew blood, shooting down a Thai F5 fighter and an OV-10 spotter plane.

Two pilots were captured after bailing out of the ill-fated spotter plane and Bangkok has since confirmed that they are being held in Vientiane.

Despite the setbacks, a high-ranking Thai air force officer told the POST the serial strikes would be resumed if there was a resurgence of fighting on the border.

Laotian forces were still occupying the hill at the time of the cease-fire, though the Thai military said it had virtual control of the strategic point.

"Actually we have already captured Hill 1428, but we won't go up there because that would automatically make our troops a static target for enemy fire," said one official.

Border Fighting Continues Prior to Cease-Fire
BK190115 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
19 Feb 88 pp 1, 3

[Text] Thailand and Laos yesterday named their representatives to a joint military coordinating group which is to meet at the border this morning to discuss the separation of forces as a ceasefire goes into effect at 8 a.m.

Thai and Laotian troops, meanwhile, exchanged their heaviest gunfire in a week yesterday on the eve of the border meeting as ground troops rushed to clear the disputed border area of landmines and traps ahead of an inspection by the truce panel.

Military sources said three middle-level Army officers were named to represent Thailand in the joint military coordinating group, which will be responsible for "clearing mines from the combat zones, exchanging prisoners, finding dead soldiers and returning seized material".

Nine officers were also appointed to set up three other groups to work with their Laotian counterparts in enforcing the troop separation within 48 hours of the ceasefire.

Ban Na Charoen School in Chat Trakan District of Phitsanulok has been chosen as the venue for this morning's meeting of the joint panel.

The discussion will be based on the framework ironed out this week by Army Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Laotian Chief-of-Staff Gen Sisavat Keobounphan.

The two generals agreed during their meeting that Thai and Laotian troops would observe a ceasefire as of 8 a.m. today, withdraw their forces three kilometres from the present line of contact within 48 hours and set up a joint military coordination committee to implement the ceasefire and troop withdrawal.

It was also agreed that political talks would start within 15 days to resolve the dispute diplomatically.

Leading the Thai delegates in the joint committee is Col Thawisak Khetsali from the Supreme Command headquarters. The two other Army officers to sit on the panel were named as Col M.L. Wibun Sukpradit and Lt-Col Surasak Chaemsi.

The Laotian team will be led by Col Somboun Sisavat, an officer attached to the General Staff Department who had joined Gen Sisavat in the peace talks in Bangkok on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Third Army spokesman Col Ritthi Rangkhaphuti said the Laotian panel members will fly to Ban Na Haeo this morning before being taken to Ban Na Charoen for immediate consultations with the Thai side.

The group will spend the night at Ban Romkiao before inspecting the disputed territory and verifying the withdrawal of soldiers. Reporters were also invited to witness the proceedings.

The joint panel will erect flagpoles at the line of contact, from which all troops will be moved back three kilometres according to the agreement. The soldiers will erect other flagpoles at the three-kilometre points.

Col Ritthi said Laotian troops have occupied four hills in Thai territory—namely, Hills 1428, 1370, 1184 and 1229 along a six-kilometre stretch of the border.

Since a number of Laotian troops were still in position atop Hill 1428 yesterday, the Lao forces will have to withdraw three kilometres back into Laotian territory from that point.

Thai troops who took up positions at the foot of the hill will also move back from that spot.

Third Army Region commander Lt-Gen Siri Thiwaphan emphasised that the troop separation was not a full withdrawal because the move is meant only to pave the way for diplomatic negotiations.

Military sources said the three-kilometre troop disengagement would take the Laotian soldiers nearly two kilometres out of Thai territory.

Foreign Minister ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawet-sila has said that Bangkok will not negotiate the border conflict until the Laotian troops were withdrawn from Thai territory.

Foreign Ministry officials met yesterday to start preparing an agenda for talks with Vientiane.

Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon told reporters that he was satisfied with the outcome of the talks between Gen Chawalit and Gen Sisavat.

He said he had instructed Gen Chawalit to follow three directives in the talks: to consider Thai sentiment over the issue, to uphold Thai-Lao relations and to preserve "justice and righteousness".

"As the three points were all met, I shall say that I am satisfied with the talks," said Gen Prem.

Col Ritthi said more than 200 shells fired by Laotian artillery fell on Thai positions between Wednesday evening and yesterday.

About 100 rounds of artillery were fired into Ban Romkiao between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. yesterday.

Thai and Laotian troops also clashed near Hill 1229 for about an hour yesterday, with both sides being supported in the fighting by artillery fire, the spokesman said.

Reports on Outcome of Border Dispute Meeting

Chawalit News Conference
BK191009 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai
1030 GMT 18 Feb 88

[News conference held by General Chawalit Yongchayut, Army commander, given on 17 February after the signing of Thai-Lao cease-fire agreement in Bangkok—recorded]

[Text] Beloved correspondents: Thank you for your patience and moral encouragement during the past 2 days while you were waiting in suspense for both of our countries to reach our objectives. As for the honorable persons seated before you today, I want you correspondents to know that every step taken during the negotiations by the military delegation, whose members were assigned by the prime minister and the foreign minister, was agreed upon by all delegation members. The success of the agreement is not due to any individual member of the delegation; it is due to the entire delegation and the support from you correspondents as well.

I do not think it is necessary to explain the atmosphere after the meeting; that you have already seen for yourself. Before being given the duty of head of the Thai delegation, the prime minister briefed me, expressing his great interest in the meeting. He told me repeatedly that during the negotiations my delegation was to hold the highest regard for the Thai people's very important feelings about their nation and territory. He said during the course of the negotiations, I was to seek ways to create a durable peace in the interests of our two countries. He said I was to uphold the fact that Thailand and Laos are inseparable, brotherly countries. His instructions were to uphold the principles, rules, and regulations based on what is right or wrong and justice. I am telling you this because my delegation was given absolutely clear policy and guidelines for the meeting.

My delegation informed Gen Sisavat that if the Thai people give their love and sincerity to anyone, they give it completely, without exceptions. This is what I informed the Lao delegation.

Army Radio Carries Feature
BK190943 Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai
2300 GMT 17 Feb 88

[“Army Meets the People” feature]

[Excerpts] Listeners: On 16 February Kaysone Phomvihan, the LPDR Prime Minister, sent a military delegation led by General Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of the LPA General Staff, to meet with the Thai military delegation led by Gen Chawalit Yongchayut, the Thai Army commander and acting supreme commander, on the Thai-Lao border dispute at Ban Romkiao, Phitsanulok Province. The meeting concluded on 17 February. The 2-day meeting proceeded in a good and cordial

atmosphere. The reason for this could be the common language in use by the participants which enables them to communicate with thorough understanding, as if they belonged to the same family. [passage omitted]

Let us examine the major points discussed at the meeting. On the cease-fire, both sides agreed that it will commence at 0800 on 19 February. This issue should pose no great problem to either side because soldiers merely have to keep their fingers off the trigger. On the second point, both sides agreed that their respective sides will pull their forces back 3 km from the current battle line as the cease-fire begins. It should not be difficult to implement this point and implementation will be even easier if both sides are determined to end the battle. But there could be questions about where the battle line is exactly, thus making Point 3 of the agreement necessary. Point 3 calls for the formation of a Military Coordination Committee to verify implementation of Points 1 and 2 mentioned earlier. Smooth implementation of Points 1 and 2 is not easy because combat forces of the two countries are confronting each other in rugged terrain; they are under great emotional stress; and, they are fully armed. Most important, both sides will try to preserve their interests as much as possible. [passage omitted]

Laos and Thailand are brotherly countries and their people mingle freely to the point that it is difficult to distinguish who is Thai or Lao. Many Thai government employees are of Lao stock. Are we going to crush our brothers? What will we have accomplished by doing that? Lao people have suffered enough during the past century under the rule of successions of colonialists. Thai people, as Buddhists, have to realize who will be the real victims and who will benefit if Laos should be crushed. We must ask ourselves, are we now engaged in a battle with Laos or another country.

Let us examine the agreement reached by the Thai and Lao military delegations and its effects. First, effective implementation of the cease-fire will completely eliminate the loss of resources, which will thus be used to continue our national development. Second, disengagement of troops to the required distance will certainly put all Lao forces out of the Thai territory, thus accomplishing the goal for which we have devoted our personnel and resources. Third, formation of a Military Coordination Committee will ensure implementation of the agreement, thus paving way for high level negotiations between the two countries. [passage omitted]

In essence, first of all, the cease-fire will mean total withdrawal of Lao forces from Thai territory. This is our desired goal as well as the wish of all Thai people. Second, we can use reliable evidence in our possession, such as treaties and pertinent maps, to verify Thailand's legitimate ownership of the disputed territory. Third, the agreement and the meeting between the senior Thai and Lao military representatives have created a favorable trend toward improved bilateral ties which could lead to

other future agreements. Fourth, from historic time Thailand always was able to ensure its survival by avoiding violence, unless absolutely necessary, through use of diversified policies. We have succeeded once more because we believe that violence never achieves peace. Fifth, the agreement will set the standard for settlement of disputes over other Thai-Lao border points and guide both countries to solve them by peaceful means. Sixth, an armed or propaganda war could alienate Laos to the point that it has to rely completely on other countries for assistance which, ultimately, will hurt Thailand.

Editorial Advises Caution
BK190207 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
19 Feb 88 p 4

[Editorial: "History Must Not Repeat Itself"]

[Text] Initially there should be satisfaction over the Thai-Lao agreement at the military level for a ceasefire beginning today. However, after a limited period of elation, questions have arisen over whether the conditions of the ceasefire were advantageous or disadvantageous to Thailand and over whether it is Laos or Thailand which gained from the agreement.

All reasonable people desire a stop to the fighting so that talks between potential foes could begin. The achievement of a ceasefire would have been a credit to both contending sides but for the conditions attached. Premature praise for former British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain for reaching a "peace in our time" agreement with 'Herr Hitler' turned to ashes when the Nazis invaded Poland and the Second World War began.

This is not to equate the Thai-Laos border situation to that which brought about the Munich pact but we have to take into consideration the nature of the people involved on the other side and their ultimate objectives—which Chamberlain failed to do with Nazism. If there is to be real peace along the whole length of the Thai-Lao border, sincerity to maintain the peace must come from both parties and from their background supporters—in the case of Laos, the Vietnamese, the Soviets and the Eastern Europe bloc and in the case of Thailand, it could be argued, the Americans, the Chinese and the ASEAN partners.

Before we go any further in analysing the announced conditions of the agreement—without any knowledge of any other conditions which could have been reached behind the scenes, if such an arrangement is possible—we must examine how the Romkla conflict arose. Whatever might have been the original cause, due in some measure to disloyal Thai loggers stealing timber on both sides of the border and dealing with corrupt Laotian officials, the main reason for the conflict was the incursion into Thai territory of Laotian troops and their occupation of a hill inside Thailand.

A proper ceasefire agreement should carry the unchallengeable requirement that the Laotian invaders should leave Thai soil and return to their homeland before any negotiations could begin. The agreement demanding that both Thai and Laotian troops withdraw from the area of the armed conflict technically makes the area a demilitarized zone and a "no man's land." Should Thai forces whose duty is to defend Thailand's territorial integrity withdraw from what we unequivocally regard as part of our country, especially in the face of what is without any doubt whatsoever an offensive by Laotian troops on the orders of their government?

The next question is whether the Thai pullback from a piece of Thai territory—after all the declarations that Thai forces would fight for every inch of Thailand—would weaken the Thai position in the forthcoming negotiations because, it could be contended by the other side that Thai authorities by this very act of withdrawal are uncertain about the ownership of the contested plot of real estate. In other words, does this mean that the land to be vacated by the Thai soldiers is now considered by us as "territory in dispute?"

Romkla was placed in Thai territory by the French-Thai map when the French governed Indochina, and the Soviet map has also confirmed this. What other maps do we need to refer to in the negotiations—maps that could be produced somehow to dispute the Thai claim?

Remember Khao Phra Wihan? Being on the Thai side of the watershed at the border, it was Thai territory, we owned it, but we were willing to go to the World Court when Prince Norodom Sihanouk claimed it for Cambodia (now Kampuchea). In going to the World Court, we cast doubt on our ownership of Khao Phra Wihan. And having gone to the World Court though there was never any necessity for us to do so, we had to accept its judgement. Only when the World Court by a majority opinion gave Khao Phra Wihan to Cambodia, did we realise that it was a political court, with the majority of judges having been appointed from communist or neutral countries which favoured neutralist Cambodia. It was a consolation prize to know that the best legal minds from the Western countries judged in favour of Thailand.

Perhaps, the Vientiane government remembers the Khao Phra Wihan case.

When the negotiations begin, it is very possible that what has been a bilateral problem will take on international implications, with the Vietnamese probably soliciting support for Laos from the communist countries (except China) and as many of the neutral countries as possible while Thailand will be wondering what kind of backing it will be able to obtain from its ASEAN allies (so-called so far in the case of the Romkla conflict), from China (which has sided with neither party in the conflict) and from a United States very much concerned with its own internal politics in this presidential year.

The best we can hope for is that the Thai military leadership's objective is to get Laotian troops out of Thai territory even if it has to make a show of a withdrawal to separate forces in a battle scenario. We also hope that the Laotian government will be sincere in its negotiations and when shown the evidence of the Franco-Thai map will admit that Romkao is in Thai territory and will make no further incursions there or anywhere else along the common border. But is that a realistic hope in view of the fact that Laotian troops had put up a tough fight to keep themselves on this piece of the Thai Kingdom and would never admit to it being so—even up until the present? With no other resort left—as in the Khao Phra Wihan case—we can only pray that we are wrong.

If a genuine ceasefire is achieved, with no more fighting taking place along any part of the Thai-Lao border, and with Thai sovereignty over Romkao remaining intact, then all glory should go to the leaders of the Thai and Laotian military delegations for making the agreement, and they should be commended for their contribution towards the promotion of regional peace.

The questions raised above will be answered, the doubts and the hopes will be settled, one way or the other, at the end of the negotiations. Anyway, it is good to stop the fighting and the killing beginning today, and for that we have to be thankful to our own General Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Laos' General Sisavat Keobounphan. Goodwill from both sides is going to be essential to a successful outcome of the talks.

NATION Columnist Analysis
BK190405 Bangkok THE NATION in English
19 Feb 88 p 2

[“Analysis” by Kawi Chongkitthawon: “Chawalit-Sisavat Talks: More Than Meets the Eye”]

[Text] The agreement on Wednesday between Army Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Laotian Army Chief of Staff Sisavat Keobounphan was more than a face-saving measure. Both sides were shooting from the hip, and scored high points.

The cease-fire and 3 km troop disengagement was a major victory for Chawalit, who was embroiled in the Thai-Lao conflict and the inability of Thai troops to quickly expel the remaining Lao troops from the Hill 1428, about 1.5 km inside the Thai border.

He was right when he said earlier that he could understand his Laotian counterpart by a mere look in the eyes. It turned out to be one of the most exciting moments in Chawalit's career.

The success came at the time when the public began to question the Thai army's performance against the Romkao intrusion. It is hopeful that by this morning, there will be no Laotian troops inside the Thai territory.

The irony of the whole affair is that the cease-fire agreement was attained only when the military turned to diplomacy.

Chawalit was humble enough to give credit to all authorities concerned, especially Premier Prem Tinsulanon. The premier was very forceful and wanted to see the end of Thai-Lao conflict as soon as possible, and with a good reason. The longer the war lasts, the more it could harm his government's image.

For Laos, Gen Sisavat's goodwill was beyond any expectation. Thailand was uncertain about the Laotian motivation. Expecting the worst, the Thai delegation was flabbergasted when the agreement was reached after some amendment of the cease-fire texts.

It was partly because both sides at first agreed to meet secretly to work the cease-fire and troop pullbacks from the disputed areas. Officials confirmed that there were secret contacts to end the conflict. “The visit of Gen Kriangsak Chamanan had something to do with it,” said an official involved in the two-day meeting without any elaboration.

The former prime minister was in Vientiane early this week, but was tight-lipped about the purpose of his trip.

Suddenly, when Laotian Prime Minister Kaysone Phomvihane sent a letter to Prem last week saying that a military delegation was willing to come to Bangkok for cease-fire talks, the Thais were taken aback but quick to agree to the meeting.

Throughout the two-day meeting, despite Chawalit's and Sisavat's public display of affection and closeness, authorities could not predict the outcome of the talks.

Observers said that Chawalit approached the talks in a manner different from the way he approached the border conflicts with Laos. On the border the army talked big, but what it delivered was small; the talks, however, were downplayed, and the outcome was unexpected. That also tells a lot about the Lao attitude toward Chawalit.

Judging from Sisavat's remark after the signing ceremony, Laos was also content with the results. First and foremost, Vientiane has proved to the world that its army can put up a good fight against well-equipped and modernized Thai troops. For the first time in its 39-year existence, the Lao People's Liberation Armed Force has shown that it could handle Thailand—its greatest historic threat. That is a psychological boost for Laos, which traditionally has been dominated in national integrity and identity by Thailand.

Laos also got most of its demands stated in Kaysone's letter. A cease-fire and troop pullout was agreed upon and will be monitored by a joint military coordinating committee. At first, the Thai government was not ready

to enter discussion on this matter but as it turned out the "consultation" turned out to be a great bargaining session between Thailand and Laos.

Thai officials, both in the Army and Foreign Ministry, were satisfied with the outcome because their main interest was the troop withdrawal from the disputed area. With a 3-kilometre troops separation, the Laotian troops automatically will have to move from the area claimed by the Thais under the 1907 Siam-France Treaty. This weekend, the 70-80 square kilometres of land will be vacated, leaving only bunkers, landmines, spare shells and dead souls.

In effect, the Laotian troop withdrawal from its occupied territory in the disputed area, which Vientiane has used as the subject of intense propaganda against Thailand, was a de facto recognition [as published] of the Thai territory.

Although both sides agreed that within 15 days there will be a diplomatic effort to resolve the border conflict, they still must find ways to break a different diplomatic deadlock that has been going on since December. Chawalit has accepted Sisavat's invitation to visit Vientiane in March.

At the moment, Thai officials are hoping that Laotian Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut would accept an invitation from his Thai counterpart, Sitthi Sawetsila, to visit Thailand on Feb 25-27 to establish "a sound basis upon which negotiations could begin in earnest."

"Phoun's visit would be a good starter, after all. But that does not rule out the possibility that a Thai delegation would take the initiative to visit Vientiane," a senior Foreign Ministry official said.

Then, the delegation led by Chawalit can follow suit. Early last year, Laos invited him to Vientiane. But it became a controversy because the Foreign Ministry at the time was preparing for the second round of talks with Laos, which were disastrous. He postponed his visit indefinitely.

Now, Chawalit has every good reason to go, and with blessings. Such a visit could materialize, and it appears it will, only when Thailand and Laos begin diplomatic activities. More than authorities would like to admit, Chawalit has upstaged the Foreign Ministry, which has been trying in vain to begin negotiations with Laos.

Just look at Chawalit's performance: a lot of hand-in-hand strolls and bear hugs have done wonderful jobs. Essentially, neither side lost face in the cease-fire agreement. The question boils down to: Who has benefitted the most in the overall scheme of things?

For both countries, given the gravity of Thai-Lao conflict—that it could escalate into a major war involving superpowers—the cease-fire and troop disengagement was highly desirable and leaves the question of ownership to be resolved through diplomatic channels. It certainly will drag on.

The military's attitude toward the whole thing is: We got the cake and ate it too.

Chawalit emerged from the talks as a knight riding the white horse. He deserved it, for he also bet his career on the two-day meeting. That's why he was so determined and so eager to conclude a deal with Laos.

Thailand and Laos have a common problem—a protracted war would be a big drain on their economies and the death toll would be higher. Chawalit was wise to seize this moment to arrange a cease-fire and prevent such a problem.

It will be no surprise if the future Thai-Lao ties would yield more positive results, especially now that Chawalit's performance has outdone the military's offensive against Laos—without firing a single bullet.

The longer Chawalit stays at the top, the better it would serve Laos' interest as well as Indochina's. Vientiane does not want Thailand's powerful military leader to be hostile to its ruling government.

Doubtlessly, Chawalit was not the only target of the Laotian approach. Diplomats suggested that the domestic Lao situation also influenced the Laotian acquiescence on the cease-fire and pullout.

Laos does not want to see the conflict get out of control. Wider war with Thailand could drag the Vietnamese force in Laos, which is estimated at 40,000-50,000 men, to wage full-scale war against Thailand. Hanoi would try to avoid this at all costs.

Vietnam wants a better image in this part of the world. It must show restraint.

Events in the next few days will be important; the new beginning of Thai-Lao dialogue can begin in earnest only when Phoun accepts Sitthi's invitation.

By all means, if Phoun refuses to visit Thailand, it could hamper the upcoming political negotiations. When the Foreign Ministry indicated that Laotian Ambassador to Thailand Khamphan Simmalavong was not welcome here, Vientiane decided he should stay on. The ambassador is alive and well, indicating his government's full support.

Rhetoric aside, whether these two countries could live in peace or not depends on how realistically Thai leaders look at Laos—and on the independence of Laotian

leaders. The meeting proved that for brotherly countries, a little bit of conciliatory gestures on both sides could have a big effect in strengthening bilateral ties.

Cease-Fire Takes Effect in Disputed Area
*BK190737 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
0530 GMT 19 Feb 88*

[Text] Thongchai Tangcharoenkrung, reporter of the Public Relations Department in Phitsanulok Province, filed the following report to the Department's Internal News Division on the situation in Ban Romkiao of Chat Trakan District in Phitsanulok Province this morning after the cease-fire agreement reached by Thai and Lao military delegations went into effect at 0800 [0100 GMT] today:

[Begin Recording] [Thongchai] Since 0800 today, both the Thai and Lao forces have stopped firing in accordance with the Thai-Lao joint agreement. A small skirmish between ground troops was reported near Hill 1428 just before the cease-fire deadline, but at 0800 both sides completely stopped firing. Today both Thailand and Laos established 12-member teams for the joint coordinating group that is to hold talks on the details for withdrawing troops 3 km from the battle line within 48 hours. The Lao team arrived in Na Haeo District of Loei Province by helicopter, and the 3d Army Region arranged a helicopter to take the delegation to Ban Romkiao. Talks are continuing at this moment. Colonel Ritthi Ramgkaphuti, chief of the Civilian Affairs Unit of the 3d Army Region, reported on the situation and atmosphere before noon:

[Ritthi] The two sides engaged in ground fighting on 17 and 18 February with an exchange of artillery and rockets. About 200 to 300 rounds were fired during the past 2 days. Between 0630 and 0700 today, ground forces of both sides clashed once at Hill 1229, north of Hill 1428. The result of the clash is not known.

[Thongchai] Have both sides observed the cease-fire agreement since 0800 as agreed?

[Ritthi] Since 0800 there has been no firing in the battle zone. The coordinating group is still holding discussions at Na Haeo District. After initial details have been agreed upon, the coordinating group will go to Ban Romkiao to implement the cease-fire and the separation of forces from the current battle line. [end recording]

Interior Ministry Bars 57 Vietnamese
*BK190433 Bangkok THE NATION in English
19 Feb 88 p 3*

[Text] The Interior Ministry has barred 57 Vietnamese on a Panamanian-flagged oil ship from landing in Ranong Province, though the United States has guaranteed to resettle them.

Usually when a country guarantees resettlement for the refugees, Thai officials will allow them to disembark.

Somphon Klinphongsaa, deputy permanent secretary for interior, yesterday said he ordered local officials to prevent the Vietnamese from going ashore. He wants the officials to find out how they came aboard the ship, owned by the British Petroleum company.

Somphon said he did not immediately allow the Vietnamese to disembark because some embassies had in the past offered resettlement but then did not take all the refugees.

Relief officials said the ship arrived in Sattahip on Feb 10.

Somphon said Gerald Walzer, representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), handed him a letter from the US Embassy on Wednesday which included an offer to resettle the Vietnamese.

The United States, along with 14 other countries, is involved in the Rescue at Sea Resettlement Offers (RASRO) scheme, set up in 1985. These countries will resettle within 30 days Indochinese refugees picked up by ships in the sea.

The Interior Ministry has recently become more stringent with Vietnamese arrivals because interior officials believe they are merely seeking a better life abroad, not fleeing political persecution.

Walzer also told Somphon on Wednesday that there are about 500 Vietnamese stranded on Kut Island and Chang Island in Trat Province. The UNHCR is seeking permission from the Interior Ministry to visit and feed the Vietnamese.

UN Representative Appeal
*BK190606 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
19 Feb 88 p 1*

[Text] The United Nations has asked Thailand to accept into mainland camps about 500 Vietnamese boat people scattered on islands off Trat Province. Interior deputy permanent secretary Somphon Klinphongsaa said yesterday.

Mr Somphon said former UN High Commissioner for Refugees representative Gerald Walzer told him the boat people were now facing starvation and several were sick.

The official told Mr Walzer the boat people on Kut, Chang, Mak and Trang islands were turned back by officials when they tried to land in Trat.

After his talks with Mr Walzer, the official said the boat people were economic immigrants and might be allowed to land in Trat but would then be moved to Site Two camp along the Thai-Kampuchean border.

Nevertheless, he said he would ask Trat officials to persuade the boat people to go home rather than come to Thailand in the hope of resettlement in third countries.

Mr Somphon said Mr Walzer also asked Thailand to admit 57 Vietnamese boat people rescued by a Panamanian-registered freighter at Sattahip and produced a letter from a US Embassy refugee official certifying the US would accept the 57.

Despite the US assurance, Mr Somphon said he would not allow the Vietnamese to leave the freighter, and he cited previous cases in which the US pledged to accept all Vietnamese on board vessels for resettlement, but took only some of them.

Under international practice, a foreign vessel which rescues refugees at risk on the high seas must report the incident to the nearest port of call, and if the host country refuses to admit them, the refugees must leave the country within 30 days.

Meanwhile, it was reported that 15 Vietnamese boat people landed on Koh Tad, near Koh Samui, yesterday and immediately scuttled their vessel.

Marine Police said they would repair the boat, give the Vietnamese food and water and then tow them out to sea.

VOFA Call for Assistance
*BK180742 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia
in Thai 1030 GMT 16 Feb 88*

[“Article”: “The Problem of Vietnamese Illegal Immigrants Arriving by Sea”]

[Text] In the past year the number of Vietnamese boat people arriving in Thailand's eastern coastal provinces, particularly Chanthaburi and Trat, has noticeably increased. On the average, at least 100 of these people arrive each month. According to Thai law, the arrival of these Vietnamese is illegal and cannot be ignored by Thai officials. There are now about 26,800 Vietnamese refugees in Thailand, compared to 12,000 in 1987 and 4,000 in 1986.

These figures show that in the past few years the influx of Vietnamese into Thailand has increased manyfold. This increase exceeds Thailand's ability to provide temporary shelter because Thailand must also shelter and care for Lao and Cambodian refugees whose numbers total no less than 400,000.

One reason Vietnamese boat people head for the Thai coast, particularly the eastern coast, is that they erroneously believe their arrival in Trat Province will put them in the Phanat Nikhom Refugee Center, which entitles them to be considered for immediate resettlement in third countries. The Vietnamese Government's efficiency in monitoring and supervising its departing people is a matter of suspicion. The communist Vietnamese Government has never seemed to care about the large numbers of people sneaking out of its country illegally, or whether they would pose problems for other countries. The Vietnamese Government's behavior is tantamount to encouraging its people to violate the law of other countries.

The growth in the number of Vietnamese refugees proportionately increases the Thai Government's responsibilities and burdens, in sheltering, feeding, clothing, and providing sanitary services for the refugees, as well as controlling their behavior to ensure their orderly stay. These burdens waste Thailand's money and require the use of many of its personnel to supervise the refugee centers. Moreover, Vietnamese refugees also create internal security problems for the Thai Government because the refugees' motives are unknown—some of them could have been sent to spy on Thailand.

Thailand is a developing country. It is not a wealthy country nor does it have a stable enough economic potential. The Thai Government has a big enough responsibility for raising the standard of living of more than 50 million Thai people. Recently, third countries have reduced their refugee resettlement, leaving Thailand alone with this burden. Moreover, to date the Vietnamese Government has not shown any eagerness to solve the refugee problem. It has shown repeatedly that it does not want to accept Vietnamese refugees from Thailand. Even today Thailand continues to shelter tens of thousands of Vietnamese refugees who came during the Dien Bien Phu war. Of these, Vietnam repatriated only a few hundred solely for propaganda purposes. Now, more and more Vietnamese refugees have entered Thailand although the war in their country no longer exists.

Because the Vietnamese boat people issue is an international problem, Thailand cannot solve the problem alone. Other countries should help solve it more earnestly. In particular, the Vietnamese Government, the crux of the problem, should regulate the departure of its people through the Orderly Departure Program. Thailand cannot receive Vietnamese boat people sneaking into its territory. Its past assistance to them was on humanitarian grounds—because they fled the war in Vietnam. But the war has ended, and the Thai Government has no policy to open new refugee centers to shelter Vietnamese, Lao, or Cambodians trying to enter its country.

The Thai agencies concerned have continued to strictly patrol Thailand's borders and sea to prevent illegal entry by Vietnamese people. In fact, it is Thailand's legitimate

right to undertake that action. Thai officials implementing such action aimed at preventing the illegal entry of Vietnamese people have done nothing to abuse humanitarian principles or human rights.

Vietnam

New Year Greetings to Chinese Listeners *OW172120 Hanoi International Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 17 Feb 88*

[Text] Dear Chinese listeners: An old year is gone, and we have ushered in a new year—the Year of the Dragon.

Over the past several thousand years, we as close neighbors established comradely and fraternal friendship, and we supported one another in our fight against feudalism and imperialism. Because of the long histories of our civilizations and the simple customs our two peoples share, we became friendly neighbors with relations even closer than those between relatives.

Now spring has come. We hope the warm sun will melt the ice and frost in our relations, and that our two countries will again become friends joining hands in building a happy life.

The Chinese Language Department of the Voice of Vietnam wishes to take this opportunity to extend its best festive wishes to its Chinese listeners. We wish you a happy new year, and we wish everyone in your families good health.

Delegation Visits Army Unit in Cambodia *BK190812 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 18 Feb 88*

[Text] On the occasion of the Mau Thin Tet, Song Be Province recently sent a delegation of the local party organization, administration, VFF, and people to visit and present gifts to units of Vietnamese Army volunteers currently performing their international duty in the sister Cambodian province of Kratie.

The delegation brought along Tet gifts donated by the people of all strata in various localities in Song Be including sugar, milk, seasoning powder, candies, and cigarettes worth almost half a million dong. The delegation also carried with them almost 4,000 well-wishing letters; more than 1,700 story books; 130 magazines, newspapers, notebooks, and music books; and guitars and sports equipment sent by mothers, sisters, and children to the combatants.

At the units visited by the delegation, all cadres and combatants were heartened and deeply moved by the concern and care of the party organization, administration, VFF, and mass organizations of Song Be. Representatives of the troops pledged to resolutely overcome

difficulties, maintain unity, assist the Cambodian people and Army units, and actively fulfill the international duty entrusted by the party, state, and people.

Amity Group Sends Anniversary Greetings to PRK *BK171708 Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT 17 Feb 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 17—The Vietnam-Kampuchea Friendship Association has sent a message of greetings to its Kampuchean counterpart on the 9th anniversary of the Vietnam-Kampuchean Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation (Feb. 18).

The Vietnamese association notes with satisfaction that the execution of the treaty has continued to deepen over the past nine years in the interests of the two nations in actively contributing to peace, stability, friendship and cooperation in Southeast Asia as well as to peace and security the world over.

NHAN DAN Marks Treaty *BK190825 Hanoi VNA in English 0710 GMT 19 Feb 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 19—Marking the 9th anniversary of the Vietnam-Kampuchea treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation (Feb 18), NHAN DAN today said developments over the past decade have brought into relief the big results in the daily life of the two peoples brought about by the implementation of the treaty.

The paper goes on:

"Over the past nine years, on the ruins of the genocidal regime, a new Kampuchean country has emerged and grown up unceasingly. The great achievements on the military, political, economic, cultural, and diplomatic fields recorded by Kampuchea are undeniable.

The partial withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers each year which is to completed in 1990 has shown that the position and strength of the People's Republic of Kampuchea have strengthened and the situation of Kampuchea has stabilized continually. Prompted by goodwill and a high sense of responsibility toward the entire people, the PRK on August 27, 1987 made public its policy of national reconciliation and on October 8, 1987 a five-point political solution aimed at breaking the impasse in the Kampuchea issue.

The paper notes that in face of the wicked schemes of the forces hostile to the revolution of the three Indochinese countries, to increasingly sharpen vigilance and consolidate the special relations between the three countries is a sacred cause and a chief guarantee for the three countries to defeat all attempts of the enemy, and to advance the revolution in each country.

"The initial results of the two rounds of talks in Paris between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk testify to the fact that the correct and realistic approach is to continue the dialogue in the search for a fair and reasonable political solution to the issue in conformity with the current trend. They further prove that the Kampuchea issue must be resolved by the Kampuchean people," NHAN DAN concludes.

13 Soviet Oil Specialists Decorated
*BK141500 Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT
14 Feb 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 14—Thirteen Soviet specialist at the Vietnamese-Soviet oil and gas joint venture (Vietsovpetro) located in the special zone of Vung Tau-Con Dao were presented with Vietnam's "friendship" medals on Feb. 11.

The presentation was made by Phan Trong Quang, deputy head of the Vietnam General Oil and Gas Department, in recognition of their notable contributions to the young oil industry of Vietnam.

In 1987, Vietsovpetro pumped 280,385 tons of oil, topping its yearly plan by 3.8 percent, and put into operation 13 oil wells, 4 [figure as received] wells more than planned. It also built two stationary oil rigs, the 4th and 5th, each within 7 months, compared with the 17-month average for the previous rigs.

USSR To Assist in Research Into Seaweed
*BK160500 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 15 Feb 88*

[Text] The Haiphong Maritime Products Research Institute and the Pacific Fishery and Oceanography Institute (Kinovlavostok) recently coordinated with each other to establish a joint Vietnamese-Soviet office of research into the growing and processing of seaweed.

The office is charged with the duty of studying the potential profits from seaweed in the coastal areas of our country, and the perfection of the recycling industry to produce seaweed in swampy areas in order to reach an annual output of 10-25 tonnes of fresh seaweeds, develop an industrial plan for the preliminary processing of seaweed, and study the industrial production of high quality alges from seaweeds.

The main office is located in Haiphong and the research work will be conducted in various research stations on (Popova) and (Champayet) islands in the Soviet city of Vladivostok.

Factory To Produce Shoes for USSR, CSSR
*BK141459 Hanoi VNA in English 1452 GMT
14 Feb 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 14—The central Vietnam province of Binh Tri Thien last year processed nearly 1,000 tons of aquatic products. Its export of aquatic products surpassed the yearly target by 46 percent and the 1986 figure by 71 percent.

The Saigon shoe factory under the Light Industry Ministry has signed a contract to produce for Czechoslovakia 4.3 million pairs of shoe uppers in 1988, 800,000 pairs more than last year.

To fulfil the contract the factory is installing three new production lines in addition to the six existing ones.

This year, the factory also plans to produce 500,000 pairs of shoes for the Soviet Union.

Various projects in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (U.N.D.P) have been carried out in Ho Chi Minh City over the last three years.

These projects deal with the production of vegetables, mushrooms, chemicals, plastics, pineapples and pharmaceuticals and environmental protection.

Two of them, namely vegetables and mushroom growing, have begun operation.

General Interviewed on Lam Dong Security
*BK180924 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN
in Vietnamese 9 Feb 88 p 2*

[Interview with Major General Pham Kha, commander of Lam Dong Provincial Military Organ, by QUAN DOI NHAN DAN correspondent Pham Hong—date and place not given]

[Text] Correspondent: Comrade, what is the situation of the maintenance of public security and the protection of the people's lives and socioeconomic building in our province?

Pham Kha: If security is an essential condition for socioeconomic building, I can say that the armed forces of Lam Dong, together with the local people, have succeeded in creating such a condition. It is true that following liberation in 1975 reactionary elements surreptitiously carried out attacks and sabotage and caused trouble for a while. But Lam Dong has accomplished the task of annihilating and smashing all these reactionary armed forces within its boundaries. It can be said that all raids on villages and hamlets, murders and robberies, and attacks on buses by reactionaries have ceased in the past 5 years.

Correspondent: I notice a special thing in Dalat City: Khaki-clad public security and police officers are very rarely seen on the streets where tourists roam freely even late at night. Isn't it a telling sign of the security level in Lam Dong?

Pham Kha: The security situation in Lam Dong has markedly improved. However, we absolutely cannot view the "FULRO [United Forces for the Struggle of Oppressed Races] affair" and other budding reactionary groups in a subjective, simplistic manner. For instance, at that time FULRO was an armed reactionary force which linked up with other reactionary forces among various religious orders and ethnic minority groups and was assisted by the imperialists and foreign reactionaries. Therefore, this problem must be solved by going to its political roots, and this is a protracted and complex struggle.

Correspondent: In Lam Dong, do conditions still exist where people of ethnic minority groups are "hungry for salt" ["dqois muoois"]?

Pham Kha: No. If there are any cases like that, they are only temporary, isolated cases in some remote areas. To solve trouble-making incidents by reactionary elements, the important thing is that we enlighten the masses, enlighten the people of ethnic minority groups, and enable the masses to really exert mastery. In this matter, we still have so much to do, including struggling against our own negative practices. Along with enlightening the masses, we must also improve their standard of living. In my opinion, their living conditions have improved somewhat lately.

Correspondent: Does your organ have any officers of ethnic minority groups among its staff. Do any Vietnamese officers speak the Ko-ho, Mo-nong, or other languages?

Pham Kha: In Lam Dong some comrades of ethnic minority groups have made the rank of lieutenant colonel. In my staff, four officers of ethnic minority groups and three Vietnamese officers speak the Ko-ho language. Regrettably, there are no officers with such language capability in the political organ. Knowledge of languages will surely make mass motivation work easier.

Correspondent: Comrade, what were our province's reactions in the Hoang Co Minh affair?

Pham Kha: As soon as we were informed of the Hoang Co Minh group's movement toward the Central Highlands, our province ordered a battalion of regular troops to coordinate with militia forces of ethnic minority groups in stepping up patrolling activities in sensitive areas.

A meeting of provincial military cadres was then held to hear a report on all developments in connection with the Hoang Co Minh affair, to study the directions from which the enemy may infiltrate into the province, and to discuss measures to strengthen the maintenance of security.

Correspondent: Comrade, please give us some details about the founding of the new district of Lam Ha.

Pham Kha: The designation is a combination of the names Lam Dong and Hanoi. The new economic zone set up in Lam Dong by the capital city of Hanoi has now been definitely incorporated into our province together with some surrounding hamlets and villages to form Lam Ha District. The new district has a population of 50,000, of whom 23,000 are from Hanoi. Lam Ha District is a base, a shield protecting the western flank of Dalat city.

Correspondent: Comrade, what do you think of the Hanoi youths in Lam Dong in national defense and security work?

Pham Kha: The militiamen in the various areas that previously belonged to Hanoi succeeded in maintaining public order and security in their localities and also participated on several occasions in the suppression of FULRO.

Generally speaking, the youths from Hanoi are good people. The number of Army recruits from among these Hanoi natives usually exceeds the norms. Some youths from Hanoi have been sent to officer candidate schools. A comrade lieutenant colonel who was formerly commander of the two new economic zones set up by Hanoi in our province is now in command of all the Armed Forces of Lam Ha District.

The living conditions of the people from Hanoi have now been visibly stabilized and somewhat improved. Thanks to the fertile soil, the coffee, tea, and other crops have given high yields.

Correspondent: What is the focus of your attention in building the militia forces of the province?

Pham Kha: I pay attention first to their political quality. The militia must be a pure and reliable force. We do not aim solely for quantity and do not care for the building of big, battalion- or regiment-sized units. Our chief concern is to organize hamlet, village militia platoons in the areas of ethnic minority groups and to train them in combat tactics that are suitable for the local people in their own localities.

Correspondent: Would you please introduce us to some good militia and self-defense units so that we may learn more about them later on?

Pham Khe: We can mention the militia units of Phu Son Village (Lam Ha District) and Loc An Village (Bao Loc District). Then there is a woman leader of the village militia unit named Nguyen Thi Hong Kien. She is very aggressive and has very good training methods. The self-defense unit of the Lang Hanh Forestry-Industrial-Agricultural United Enterprise also has considerable experience in building armed forces.

Government Policies on Care for Elderly
*BK180804 Hanoi VNA in English 0723 GMT
18 Feb 87*

[Text] Hanoi VNA/OANA Feb. 18—At present there are about 4 million people over 60 in Vietnam. The Communist Party and the Government of Vietnam have adopted a number of policies which testify to their concern for the welfare of the elderly people.

—Authorities and mass organizations at all levels and in all branches of activity must work out programmes for looking after old people, especially those who have served the country well, and childless people without support.

—All mass organizations, social organizations, offices of information, culture and education must carry out practical programmes of action for looking after and helping old people. Young people must be taught to behave correctly and fulfill their responsibilities towards the elderly.

The Ministry of Health should organize scientific studies on the problem of old people's health and set up research centres. Hospitals in cities and provinces must have beds or whole wards reserved for elderly people and for treating old-age ailments. Health examinations are to be held periodically for old people and rest houses set up for those without support.

The Ministry for Social Affairs, the Ministry of Culture, the Tourism Office, the Department of Physical Culture and Sports should provide guidance to localities in organizing physical training, club activities, and entertainments, for the old people and in giving them information about notable events and party and state policies.

The Ministry of Communications and Transport, the Ministry of Home Trade, the Ministry of Food, the Ministry of Culture must issue regulations giving priorities to the elderly and the disabled in using means of public transport, buying necessities, and attending popular entertainments. The fatherland front, the federation of trade unions, the women's union and the youth union must work together with the whole society in those activities for the old people.

Nguyen Duc Tam Visits Thanh Hoa Province
*BK151235 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 14 Feb 88*

[Text] On 13 and 14 February, Comrade Nguyen Duc Tam, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, paid a working and traditional new year visit to cadres and people in Thanh Hoa Province.

Comrade Ha Van Ban, acting secretary of the Thanh Hoa Provincial Party Committee, and all comrade members of the provincial party committee worked with Comrade Nguyen Duc Tam on a number of important internal issues concerning party-building work.

Comrade Nguyen Duc Tam met and addressed the conference of provincial hard-core cadres on the national situation 1 year following the implementation of the resolution of the sixth national party congress and Resolution Nos 2, 3, and 14 of the party Central Committee. He pointed out a number of initial results, the difficult and complicated problems now facing the nation, and the future tasks that our entire party and people must strive to fulfill in order to advance the country forward.

At the conference, Comrade Nguyen Duc Tam spent much of his time dealing with a number of issues of interest for all local cadres and people, first of all, with the results of the movement for work evaluation initiated by the secretariat of the provincial party committee.

Comrade Nguyen Duc Tam stressed the importance of unity and reminded the participants in the conference, first of all, the comrade hard-core members of the party committee echelons and party organizations, of the need to promote unity and henceforth create strength for Thanh Hoa Province to advance forward in the new stage. On the occasion of the Mau Thin Tet festival, on behalf of the party Central Committee Secretariat, Comrade Nguyen Duc Tam met and held cordial talks with retired veteran revolutionaries. He also visited the family of a model worker of the Ba Dinh Printing Enterprise and called on cadres and workers of the Thanh Hoa Provincial Engineering Plant and the Hong Phu Cooperative where he met and cordially talked with a number of cooperative members who achieved high labor productivity and satisfactorily fulfilled their grain obligation to the state.

Department Holds Conference on Agrarian Law
*BK161027 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 15 Feb 88*

[Text] Recently, the Land Management General Department held a conference in DaLat Municipality, Lam Dong, to discuss the enactment of the Law on Land approved by the Eighth National Assembly at its eighth

session. Attending the conference were more than 100 leading representatives of the land management and judicial sectors from 20 provinces from Quang Nam-Danang.

Presiding over the conference, Comrade Ton Gia Viem, director of the Land Management General Department, expounded on the fundamental points of the Law on Land passed by the National Assembly; and at the same time, he introduced five legal documents for submission to the Council of Ministers.

Based on the local situation and especially on land management work carried out in the past, the representatives made many practical suggestions to the enactment of the law on land. First of all, to ensure that the Law on Land will be strictly and uniformly implemented by all localities in the coming period, they proposed that the Council of Ministers promulgate at an early date documents on administrative sanctions for violations of the Law on Land; on the allocation of uncultivated land, bare hills, family-based economy land, garden land, land for peasants working independently, and land for building residential quarters; and on the procedures for issuing certificates confirming the right to use land.

VPA Generals Visit Military Units on Tet
BK171314 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 16 Feb 88

[Text] Leaders of the Ministry of National Defense recently paid Tet visits to a number of military units. Senior General Le Duc Anh, minister of national defense, paid a Tet visit to officers and combatants of the Tien Phong Army Corps. On behalf of the Military Commission of the CPV Central Committee and the Ministry of National Defense, the senior general thoughtfully inquired about officers and combatants of various military units and conveyed Tet greetings and kind regards to families of the fallen combatants, wounded and sick soldiers, and families of military personnel.

The senior general wished military units a happy New Year. He urged them to practice thrift, enhance vigilance, and stand ready to fulfill all assigned tasks.

On this occasion, Colonel General Doan Khue, chief of the VPA General Staff, and Colonel General Nguyen Quyet, deputy head of the Political General Department, paid Tet visits to officers and combatants of a number of military units, hospitals, and schools.

NHAN DAN on Renovation in New Year
BK180938 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 16 Feb 88

[NHAN DAN Tet issue editorial: "The Moving Strength of the Year of the Dragon"]

[Text] The beauty of the dragon lies in its flying position. When a dragon is about to take off, it has to muster all its strength. In the Year of the Dragon, we must create at all

costs the premises and conditions for stability, which constitute the necessary condition for inevitable progress.

As pointed out by the party Central Committee's fourth plenum, 1988 must be the pivotal year of all changes along the decisive, irrevocable direction of renovation following the line of the sixth party congress.

It is necessary to effect real and comprehensive renovation in the areas of thinking, work style, organization, and cadre-related work. Renovation must involve all areas. Renovation of the economy must be of primary importance and it must involve production and distribution and circulation as well. It is necessary to develop even more vigorously the democratization of political and social activities in the nation. Thorough renovation must be effected at upper levels since this will help pave the way for the renovation of the entire society. Renovation must proceed in an irrevocable direction.

Last year's greatest results lie in the renovation of socialist awareness and efforts to overcome the tendency toward simplistic views, dogmatism, and alienation from tangible life.

We need a developing production force to develop the special characteristics of the public-owned property system. In the initial stage, we must liberate all production forces, optimally exploit all potentials of economic components, and accelerate the production of socialist goods. These are necessary steps meeting the people's aspirations and in compliance with the general trend of history.

The Vietnamese land and society not only possess great potential but are also capable of overcoming all difficulties, solving complexity, and stabilizing the situation to advance further. A decisive and direct factor for success requires all people in the society to integrate their mind, energy, and material strength to carry out tasks in the same direction to advance toward the final goal.

To carry out renovation in the year of the dragon, we must strive by all means to score achievements. We must clearly distinguish old concepts from the new ones. Timeliness is the most effective measure, while slowness only prolongs sluggishness and creates difficulties.

The year of the dragon must be a year of effective renovation for each organization and individual. For Vietnam, the flying dragon is mustering all its strengths to bring about profound and comprehensive renovation in the Mau Thin Lunar Year.

Briefs

Tourism Office in FRG

Hanoi VNA February 17—The Vietnam Information and Tourism Bureau under the General Department of Tourism was inaugurated in the city of Hamburg, the

Federal Republic of Germany, on Feb. 16. The inauguration was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Tourist Industry of Hamburg State and various economic and tourist agencies in the FRG and several countries of west and north Europe together with large

numbers of media workers. The event was also witnessed by representatives of the Vietnamese Embassy and many Vietnamese residents in the FRG. [Text] *[Hanoi VNA in English 0715 GMT 17 Feb 88 BK]*

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DATE FILMED

30 Jan 1988

